

DUDLEY CHRONICLE



Thursday, August 7, 2014

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PAGE 9

Ten homes proposed on derelict pub land

A DERELICT pub will be demolished under plans to build a housing estate.

Dudley planning officers have recommended that The Freebodies Tavern on St John's Road be knocked down to make way for ten two and three bedroom homes.

The Kates Hill pub has been boarded up for more than five years.

Vandals have attacked the former pub, opposite St John's Church, and there have been problems with fly-tipping.

Now Alps Developments Midlands Limited hope to receive approval to build new homes on the site in three terraced blocks.

Each of the ten homes, which face towards High Street, will have car parking spaces.

The plans are due to go before Dudley Council's development control committee on Monday and have been recommended for approval with the condition that developers retain a public right of way on the site.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Steve Waltho, said: "I am supporting these plans because the pub has been an eyesore on the area for a number of years. Since the building closed it has become a magnet for vandals."

HarryFest at mall car park

A TWO-DAY festival in honour of a young fundraiser is taking place at Merry Hill shopping centre.

HarryFest is this weekend from 10am to 4pm on the Eat Central car park at the Brierley Hill mall.

Harry from Birmingham died aged 11 from a brain tumour in 2011. He set up the charity Help Harry Help Others and raised more than £600,000 for cancer research. The festival is part of a superhero-themed holiday programme and tickets cost £2.50 on the gate.

PHARMACY PLAN IS PUT ON HOLD

Work is about to start on new store

CONSTRUCTION of a new supermarket is to begin 'imminently' following work to clear the site.

Lidl was granted permission to build the store on part of the Duckworth Trading Estate in Stallings Lane, Kingswinford, and earlier this year received further approval to expand the scheme.

Fencing has gone up around the site and signs saying a new store is coming soon.

Officials from the supermarket giant said construction is set to begin shortly.

The amended application was to incorporate a larger area, taking in further vacant units on the trading estate.

A 115-space car park will be created as part of the proposals.

The store is expected to create 15 full-time and 25 part-time jobs.

Lidl spokeswoman Nicole Benford said: "The work that has taken place so far is to clear the site.

"We expect the construction work to begin imminently."

Some traders in nearby High Street were concerned about the scheme but councillors said they believed the town was 'big enough' to accommodate another supermarket and it would provide 'healthy competition'.

Blower is a howling error

NO one likes being disturbed but for one howler monkey at Dudley Zoo a leaf blower is just too much to take. The primate, named Dargie, begins a deep howling call which can be heard up to three miles away every time he hears the machine start up.

Head gardener Carl Stevens said it may be due to the sound frequency of his new leaf blower or that the eight-year-old thinks another howler monkey is nearby when it starts up.

PLANS to build a community pharmacy outside the main entrance to Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital have been put on hold.

But health bosses are still working to reduce waiting times for patients.

The £227,000 outpatient pharmacy had been proposed to help reduce the wait for patients to receive medicines and would also provide other services, such as counsel.

By Heather Large

existing accommodation at Russells Hall Hospital is also being explored to help improve our patients' experience."

Hospital bosses previously said the pharmacy would enable staff to have more time to help patients understand their prescriptions and also to answer their questions.

It was hoped it would leave the existing pharmacy department to focus just on inpatient prescriptions.

It was expected to create one new job with others to follow.

The pharmacy was expected to be open from 9am to 7pm seven days a week.

Planning permission has already been granted for the scheme by Dudley Council.

That planning application said the location for the new pharmacy was chosen so that patients had a shorter walk to car parks and was close to the main hospital building with its facilities.

The site near the hospital entrance is currently used for cycle parking.

The application said the development follows national NHS surveys, which have shown that there is a need to supply more information and counselling for patients.

"An alternative use of

State-of-the-art fire station opens



Bluewatch at the new fire station — Kev Atkinson, Paul Morris, Dominic Rose, Jamie Law, Matt Crawford and Temple Jones

IT has served the community for 72 years but now now firefighters have bid a fond farewell to their old station as they moved into a state-of-the-art new base.

Cradley Heath's fire station closed its doors for the final time on Monday before personnel pat and present paraded to the new Haden Cross fire station on Barrs Road. It is on the site of former municipal buildings.

Station Commander Marc Hudson said saying goodbye to the old fire station was an emotional experience. However, he added: "Haden Cross will provide modern bespoke fire station and community facilities."

Councillor John Edwards, Chairman of

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, served at Cradley Heath station during his 12-year stint as a firefighter. He said: "The move to the new Haden Cross station fulfils the promise we made to the communities of Cradley Heath and Halesowen. We are providing a new community fire station to provide, not just a first class emergency response, but also prevention and protection services to the people we serve."

A community 'open afternoon' will take place at the new station on September 6.

Horgan Homes has submitted a planning application to demolish the former Halesowen station in Hagley Road and build 14 homes.



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Cemetery expansion space for 20 years

WORK to expand Dudley Cemetery to create dozens of new burial plots will start later this year after councillors approved funding for the project.

The council had feared Dudley could run out of plots by the autumn if more space wasn't found. Just 140 plots remained and the situation as was described as 'critical'.

Plans for a £200,000 extension on a former football pitch off Clee Road were drawn up.

The new site will have enough burial space to last approximately 20 years and will include fencing, gates, paths and parking bays. It will include 1,000 plots and will be able to cater for all religions. There will also be 150 cremated remains plots and 140 small plots.

Environment boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "We are spending up to £200,000 extending the amount of burial space we have in Dudley, to resolve the well publicised shortage we have. The new facility will be able to cater for specific religious needs which is something that is very important to us with the rich diversity we have in the borough."

It was approved at last week's cabinet meeting.

Tunnel plan is delayed again

PLANS to turn the historic Drakelow Tunnels into a museum have hit delays.

Wyre Forest District Council was expected to make a decision this summer on the proposals for the network of wartime tunnels carved out of the sandstone under Kinver Edge.

Officials last week said the 'planning process was still continuing but no date was set. It is not the first time the project has been hit by delays. A decision was expected in December but was put back after the district council requested more detailed proposals.

Rare orchid find

A SPECIES of rare orchid has been discovered at a Dudley nature reserve.

Wardens at Wren's Nest Nature Reserve found the broad-leaved helleborine orchid on site.

Family activities are held at the reserve every Friday from 10am, starting today.

Centre ready to train hundreds of paramedics

A NEW paramedic training facility has been opened to help cope with a huge influx of students.

West Midlands Ambulance Service has taken over the first floor of Dudley College's campus in Brierley Hill after running out of space at its current facility in Baggeridge. That is because the service will be taking on 265 student paramedics and 50 graduate paramedics over the coming year as part of a major recruitment drive.

Dudley Road centre may become a permanent home for the service's training when the lease runs at Baggeridge next year.

Training at the campus began this month with the service expected to ramp up its operations as more trainees are taken on. It will also be used for the continuous training of current employees and the 159 students recruited over the past year.

Best

Kim Nurse, the ambulance trust's director of workforce and organisational development, said: "With the trust having such a major programme of training and development, ensuring we have the best education facilities available for our staff is key."

"Securing the accommodation at Dudley College will assist us in improving the facilities for our staff to develop skills, which will have a direct impact on the care that we are able to provide to patients."

The college will be run as the service's training centre for 12 months on a temporary basis but could then be taken on permanently in June. But the service is currently looking at other options. As a result, the costs involved in moving to the college are currently not available, as they are commercially sensitive pending the search for a possible new base.

Mrs Nurse added: "Longer term, we are looking at what the best options are for the trust."

"This may involve bringing a number of current education locations together on one site."

The Dudley College campus was chosen for its secure location for training vehicles.

Principal Lowell Williams said: "We're delighted the West Midlands Ambulance Service are operating from Dudley College's Brierley Hill Centre, and look forward to working with them to provide office accommodation to meet their business needs."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Campaigners aim to open charity shop

CAMPAIGNERS aiming to raise thousands of pounds to restore a landmark Dudley church are looking to open a charity shop.

St John's Church Preservation Group have permission to take over the listed building in Kates Hill and re-open it for Christian worship, tourism and community use. Chairman Deb Brownlee said: "We would be very interested to hear from any commercial property owners who would allow us the rent free use of empty premises." Contact her on savestjohn.schurh@hotmail.co.uk or call 0787 119 5042.

Mayor recruits helpful cadets

THE Mayor of Dudley has brought new recruits into his army of volunteers.

Young people from the Staffordshire & West Midlands (North Sector) Army Cadet Force are ambassadors for Mayor Councillor Margaret Aston.

The cadets will accompany the mayor at civic events and be part of her fundraising initiatives. Councillor Mrs Aston said: "Young people have such a positive role to play in the borough."

Hotels chain hit by higher costs

THE Millennium and Copthorne Hotels group, which includes hotels in Brierley Hill and Birmingham, saw pre-tax profit and revenue fall in the first six months of this year.

Revenue per room was down 2.4 per cent to £65.67 and profit before tax slipped to £58.4m. The group said the decline was due to higher costs, stronger sterling and challenging Asian markets.

Blitz on beauty spot biker menace

POLICE have put up signs around a beauty spot in Brierley Hill warning people not to ride off-road motorbikes over it.

Officers say tackling the problem on the Fens Pool Nature Reserve remains a priority and, if necessary, they will call upon helicopter support to help catch illegal riders who have prompted complaints.

Patrols stepped up

BOOZE has been blamed for anti-social behaviour in Gornal with police promising to clamp down on those responsible. Patrols are being stepped up from Lake Street to Pennine Drive after complaints.

Relief for traders as town centre roads opening again

ROADS in Dudley town centre which have been shut for more than six months are to reopen today with the completion of the first phase of a £6.7million regeneration project.

Castle Street and New Street, closed since the start of the year, will open as work on the revamp of Dudley's market place enters the next phase.

Buses will begin operating as normal along both roads

and Fisher Street this week.

Closure of the roads, in the heart of the town centre, proved controversial with traders saying it had led to a significant drop in trade. The three roads were closed to traffic to allow work to begin on the first phase.

Stone has been laid on roads and pavements and new parking bays created in Castle Street.

Disabled parking, a drop off point for park and ride and a motorcycle bay have also been created. New lighting columns have been installed along with seating and litter bins.

Work was originally due for completion in May but hit delays due to problems posed by underground pipes and cables.

Some shops along the roads said their trade had been hit hard.

The men then assaulted one member of staff before making off with an unknown quantity of cash.

Detective Constable Chris Smith from CID in Brierley Hill said: "One staff member has received treatment at the scene for head injuries."

Police are carrying out forensics and ongoing inquiries at the scene. We are appealing for anyone who may have seen the robbery or anyone who may have information to contact us as soon as possible."

Call Brierley Hill CID on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Returning Beacon to its hay days



Chairman of the Friends of Sedgley Beacon David Stanley and Councillor Michael Evans help at the landmark site

WORK is taking place to improve Sedgley Beacon for generations to come from creating new wildflower meadows and restoring hedgerows on the Black Country landmark.

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is working on the project with volunteers from the Friends of Sedgley Beacon.

It will include expanding the area of grassland which grows on the fossil-rich limestone including the old quarry. New areas of limestone will

be exposed and hay from the quarry, which is rich in wildflowers, will be spread there to encourage more diverse wildlife.

Dudley Council archaeologists will be on hand to see if any evidence of the site's rich history is uncovered during the project.

Simon Atkinson, conservation projects manager at trust, said: "The chance to work on such a key site is a great opportunity for us and our partners South Staffs Water. Together

with the Friends, volunteers and Dudley Council we'll be enhancing some great habitats which are of real importance for local people and wildlife.

"There are plants such as milkwort and carline thistle which only grow on these sites, as well as butterflies such as marbled white and birds such as whitethroat that thrive in such habitat. For the Black Country to retain such diversity in plants and animals, it is vital that sites like Sedgley Beacon are looked after."

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



OUR changing language. Closing a number of Muslim bank accounts, HSBC says it's because they "fall outside our risk appetite." We journalists, being wordsmiths trained in economy and accuracy of language, would never use such jargon. Wanna bet? Reporting on the departure of a newspaper boss, the media website Hold the Front Page announces: "He has worked to transform the company from a primarily print and product-focussed group to a customer and community-focussed media solutions business." Ye gods and little fishes.

THE DVLA says there will be consultation on plans to reduce the cost of renewing a driving licence. So here's my response: don't be so damn silly. We renew our licences only once every 10 years. The plan is to reduce the fee from £50 to £34. That's a saving of £1.60 a year or about 0.4p a day. It is a piffling sum which most motorists will not even notice. Yet it will cost the Government about £18 million a year, which could surely be spent on something useful. Like filling in a few potholes?

THIS titbit, from a reader in a waspish mood, is supposed an English teacher consoling a pupil who has just failed English GCSE: "There, they're, their."

AS the First World War commemorations reach their climax, a reader raises a fascinating question. Who is the youngest child of a veteran of the 1916 Battle of the Somme? He believes his sister, aged 70, is a contender. However, many Somme veterans were still around in the 1980s and some may have married more than once. It is possible that someone alive today in their 60s or even their 50s had a father who went over the top on July 1, 1916.

WHEN geeky, gawky Ed Miliband acknowledged he'd never win a photo-opportunity, he was trying to stress his deeper, invisible qualities. I was reminded of Iain Duncan Smith's darkest hour in 2003. The then Tory leader growled:

"Do not underestimate the determination of a quiet man." But it was a quiet, desperate sort of growl and it didn't work the miracle. One pundit labelled IDS "the quiet man who has much to be quiet about." It will probably be the same with Miliband. To be fair, there are a number of reasons why someone

may appear weird. They may have inherited a shifty look. They may possess an awkward sort of face. They may have a deep-rooted problem with bacon sandwiches. But one of the commonest reasons for a bloke looking weird is that he is weird. Even so, prepare for the weird man entering Number Ten. The constituency boundaries are now so unfair that any Labour leader in the past 100 years could beat the Tories with the obvious exception of Neil Kinnock.

BLACK cats are said to be suddenly unpopular, partly because they do not photograph well in selfies. According to the RSPCA, today's most popular cat colour is ginger. What a strange society it is that cherishes ginger cats but makes fun of ginger humans.

WHERE are the police when you really need them? If you happen to live in Dorset, the answer could be that they're busy nicking folk like Wayne Duke. The 34-year-old drives a classic 1969 Dodge Charger and, according to reports, was taking a bride and groom to their reception when he sounded his Dixie-tune air horn. A police car promptly pulled him over. Mr Duke says he didn't know the horn was illegal and you might think, as it was a wedding day, the police would have let him off with a gentle warning. Instead they handed him a summons to appear in court. Is Mr Duke perhaps a serial horn-blower? One emailer asks: "What about the ice-cream vans?"

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

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Donations boost for heritage centre

AROUND £30,000 has been collected in public donations, leaving heritage campaigners just £10,000 away from their final drive towards a £3m education and heritage centre for Dudley Canal Trust, called The Portal.

It will be used to tell thousands of visitors about the Black Country's industrial past and canal heritage. The two-storey base will be built by

the Dudley Canal Tunnel entrance at Todd's End with the help of lottery cash and grants. So far £30,000 in donations has been received to help fund the project, £10,000 shy of the £40,000 target.

June Hodkins said: "It's excellent. We're not far from our goal which is great. The donations have come from visitors who have been out on trips and have enjoyed them-

selves so they have wanted to support the project."

Earlier this summer, the trust received a £100,000 grant from The Garfield Weston Foundation. The Heritage Lottery Fund has given the project £989,200 and a £1m cash windfall has come from the European Regional Development Fund. The total cost of the project is expected to be £3 million and it

is hoped that the building could be open by Easter 2015.

A swing bridge would be constructed so visitors from the nearby Black Country Living Museum can access the ticket office, boats and heritage centre. Bosses also plan to install a lift link to the towpath and wharf. The top floor of the centre would provide access from the car park on Birmingham New Road.

Halfway to homes on former campus

WORK on a development of 80 homes on a former college site has reached the halfway stage.

Bellway is building the estate on land previously occupied by workshops, classrooms and halls of residence for Dudley College. The college buildings at the former Castle View campus were demolished two years ago to make way for the homes. Staff and students moved to the Broadway campus. The developer will invest £250,000 into community facilities, including sports and road improvements.

Bellway's sales and marketing director Stephen Rose said: "It's fantastic to see St James Mews really taking shape. The development has transformed the approach to Dudley town centre along Salop Street and provided an attractive frontage to The Parade."

Dudley College sold the land to the developer to help fund its new learning quarter in the town centre, which includes a sixth form centre in Priory Road and vocational centre in Tower Street. Work has started on Dudley Advance, an engineering and manufacturing centre, and Dudley Enhance maths centre, both in Priory Road.

Warning on roadworks

MOTORISTS could face delays as resurfacing work takes place on a main route through Wordsley.

A traffic island will also be created as part of the scheme at the A491 Camp Hill, near the Red House Glass Cone.

Resurfacing work was due to start between Marine Crescent and Brierley Hill Road on Tuesday and is expected to last around a week.

The new 'splitter island' is to be constructed in Camp Hill near the junction with Marine Crescent once the resurfacing is complete.

Vehicles at risk

MORE than a dozen cars were found to be vulnerable to thieves during a check on vehicles in Stourbridge.

Officers found 18 cars were insecure. Police say they will continue advising residents to ensure they lock their cars and keep valuable items out of view.



Young rap and singing duo Bars & Melody, from Britain's Got Talent, signing CDs for their fans at Merry Hill



The huge queue snakes along the gallery at Merry Hill shopping centre as fans wait to meet Bars & Melody at HMV

WOULD you believe it? Well, no, actually.

RESEARCHERS at Oxford University have found that youngsters who play computer games for at least an hour a day turn out to be happier, more sociable, and less hyperactive than those who don't.

In other words, sitting in a darkened room, wearing a gothic T-shirt and shouting 'Die' at the computer screen is a sort of 21st century way to make friends and influence people.

Of course it is.

Now those 'researchers', were they students by any chance?

□ □ □

AFTER being diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 48, hospice worker Geraldine Jones made a bucket list of things she wanted to do before she died. Among them was riding a horse across a deserted beach.

After three years, Mrs Jones was given the all-clear, and to celebrate she decided to do the ride on Llangennith beach on the Gower peninsula.

She died from head injuries sustained while falling from the horse.

It is impossible to think what her family must be going through at the moment, but at least she did die doing something she loved.

But this just shows that life can be very cruel sometimes.

□ □ □

SOME years ago, the Government reduced vehicle excise duty for small, diesel engined cars to £30.

This was presumably in the belief that they were environmentally friendly.

Now, in order to discourage people from driving diesel-engined cars, Mayor of London Boris Johnson is threatening to double the congestion charge in the city for those using such vehicles.

Inevitably, local councils up and down the country say they are now considering measures to penalise diesel drivers in the name of cracking down on pollution.

And you wonder why there is so much scepticism about all this environmental malarkey?

□ □ □

FOOTBALLER is found guilty of not trying to win a football match, and they call it throwing the game.

A lifetime ban and possible criminal prosecutions loom.

Lewis Hamilton defies his manager's instructions, and tries to win a motor race.

He is blasted for not being a team player.

No, I've never understood motor racing, either.



Martin Wheatley, Financial Conduct Authority chief



Under fire — pay day lender Wonga's high interest rates



MP Ian Austin campaigns against greedy lenders

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

NIGEL Farage is standing in for Daniel who is on holiday

IS there really any difference between Nigel Farage and Alex Salmond?

Or, to put it another way, is UKIP's ambition for a country free from the shackles of the European Union any different from the Scottish Nationalists' desire to be rid of Westminster?

Both parties appeal to the same nationalist — some would say parochial and isolationist — instincts.

How could a supporter of Britain's independence from Europe quibble if the Scots felt the same way about England?

The sight of Alex Salmond lording it around Glasgow like the King of the Commonwealth Games is enough to infuriate most Brits. The leader of the Scots Nats clearly hopes the games will be another nail in the coffin of the historic United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This is not unlike Nigel Farage's hope that success in May's Euro elections will translate into a breakthrough in next year's General Election.

Mr Farage may be a Home Counties gin-and-tonic man compared to Mr Salmond's highland whisky. But is Mr Farage wrapping himself in the Union Jack really very different from Mr Salmond in a Saltire?

Both men come from outside the established political parties. They are both adept populists. They both articulate deeply-held views which are ignored by mainstream politicians. They are both 'people's politicians'. But there is a difference between them — history. Mr Farage has history on his side; Mr Salmond does not.

England and Scotland have, for all practical purposes, been a single unified country since 1603. That's when Henry VII's great-great grandson James IV of Scotland took over from Elizabeth I and became James I of England as well. He called himself King of Great Britain and Ireland.

The two countries were formally united 100 years later and, despite a few ups and downs, they have been happily and successfully united ever since.

In the intervening three centuries or so, England and Scotland worked peacefully together as one nation (along with the Welsh and many of the Irish) to create a global powerhouse.

Yet when we look at Britain's — not just England's — relations with the rest of Europe, things look quite different. For centuries we have worked to keep the peace across the English Channel. We have been forced to sacrifice lives at frighteningly regular intervals to rescue Europe from its own folly. That is why we are marking the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. It was not a conflict of our making.

Helping to escape the cycle of debt

A credit union in Dudley is offering help to escape spiralling debts, DANIEL WAINWRIGHT reports

PAYDAY lenders such as Wonga, QuickQuid and others have advertised themselves as the quick and simple way to make ends meet until the salary drops into the account.

But the reality, for thousands of people, is very different.

Proposals unveiled this month are meant to put an end to the 5,853 per cent interest rates.

The Financial Conduct Authority's proposals for a cap on payday lending mean that interest and fees on new loans, including those rolled over, must not exceed 0.8 per cent per day of the amount borrowed.

The watchdog said that those who borrow £100 for 30 days and pay back on time will not pay more than £24 in fees and charges and someone taking the same loan for 14 days will pay no more than £11.20.

Under the proposals, fees for borrowers who cannot repay their loans on time must not exceed £15 and they must never have to pay back more in fees and interest than the amount borrowed.

It means that someone struggling with repayments on a £100 loan will never pay back more than £200 in any circumstance. The FCA estimates that consumers will save on average £193 per year through the measures, translating into £250 million annual savings overall. The price cap is set to cost the industry about £420m in lost revenues.

The loan companies, Wonga and Quickquid, can provide cash very quickly but the repayment rates are exceptionally high.

The Castle and Crystal Credit Union



An alternative — the Castle & Crystal Credit Union based in Dudley

in Dudley's New Street has also been helping people to get their finances back under control.

Ian Austin, MP for Dudley North, has campaigned to drive payday lenders from the high street altogether.

He says: "Anything that limits the rip-off rates these people charge and the appallingly high interest and fees consumers end up paying has to be a good thing. Their customers can end up in a vicious circle they can never get out of — strapped for cash in the first place then struggling to pay back the loan

because the costs just mount up. Hard-pressed families should be encouraged to use responsible lenders like Castle and Crystal instead."

Many people with debts are embarrassed to speak out. One woman who did so asked not to be identified. 'Mrs Smith' borrowed less than £400 but within months was facing a bill of more than £1,200 that threatened to keep spiralling.

She and her partner had spent more

than five years grappling with their finances before resorting to payday lend-

ers at the end of 2012. They took out loans with two companies for less than £200 each in December of that year but by May 2013 they owed £1,256.70 to the lenders — £887.89 to Wonga and £368.81 to Quickquid.

Wonga charged the equivalent to annual interest of 5,853 per cent while Quickquid wanted the equivalent to 1,734 per cent a year.

The couple worked hard to economise and had a household income of £39,000 a year but it was not enough. With four children between them and spiralling debts, payday lenders offered a quick solution when they were hit by an unexpected expense, such as a car repair or broken oven.

Castle and Crystal was able to pay off the loan and put them on a cheaper rate. But credit unions can only help if more people use them for larger loans, for which they can charge interest over a long time.

Castle and Crystal has 4,300 members and is growing. In February it opened 100 new savings accounts, compared with 61 in the same month last year. It issued £82,000 of loans, a 203 per cent rise on the previous year.

Dharminder Dhalwal, business and finance manager at Castle and Crystal, says: "About 1.6 million people use payday lenders each year. As a credit union we need to do most of our loans at £800 or more to break even. Payday loans are for less than that and that's why they've always charged what they want."

Payday lenders are already prevented from rolling over loans more than twice and have been restricted in their ability to drain money from bank accounts. The £2.8 billion sector has come under intense scrutiny amid outrage over the way some consumers have been treated. The FCA's proposals, if approved, would take effect from next January.

Mr Austin says he will continue to campaign against payday lenders — I want to see these people driven out of business altogether."

Cloudy2Clear Windows — Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes — not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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New era of lower wages and higher rents

ANYONE who doubts that the UK has moved into a low paid service industry economy only needs to look at the rapid increase in amateur landlords offering houses for rent. Rented accommodation has doubled over the last ten years whilst home ownership has fallen from 70 per cent to 60 per cent.

We are rapidly moving back towards the Rachmanism of the 1950s when immigrants were exploited in London and rent controls had to be brought in.

There is a perceived myth that builders have vast land banks which should be used for house building. This is a

smokescreen put forward by governments to hide the fact that house price inflation is controlled by the supply of easy finance, a trick used to make homeowners feel better off, particularly where votes can be generated.

The rich are certainly getting richer but so are the greedy. Councillors in Dudley who gave themselves a large increase in expenses a few years ago whilst seeing fit to reduce public services. In fairness, some elected members do not claim their fees, which was the case in the 1950s when after a meeting they were lucky to get their

bus fare home. They have also started calling committees 'cabinets' to make it sound as though they are worth more remuneration.

Zero hours contracts are an indication that an economy is moving downwards because this can distort unemployment figures. The scenario we now find ourselves in is the result of production going to Third World countries in the quest for cheap labour. The plight we now face will be difficult to reverse.

R SLIMM
Dudley

Council's justification is an insult

IT'S no surprise that Labour councillors have opposed the move to cut their numbers by a third.

Saving money is not what they are about, more like wasting it and blaming Government cuts.

It makes you question what the extra 24 are doing for their fat little earners — absolutely nothing, apparently.

The reason given by David Sparks is that we could do without them but, as all the other councils are over-manned, we won't be different. This is an insult to council tax payers.

The worrying thing is this man is in charge and, with a Labour Government backing him, I fear that the days of council tax freezes and better services are coming to an end and the return of massive public spending is imminent.

D SHAKESPEARE
Halesowen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Driver education more vital than speed limits

I SEE that Thorns Road, Quarry Bank, is to have its 40mph speed limit reduced to 30mph.

I would firstly like to say that the unfortunate death of the man who was knocked down by a lorry was not due to speed but that of an attacker who forced the man to run into path of the vehicle. Secondly, reducing the speed will not cure any problem Thorns Road has. What is needed is driver education and this can only be dealt with at the learning stage of driving. Following this, tough action must be taken against drivers who disregard any speed limit.

How many times have those driving legally on a clear road found in the next viewing of their rear view mirror that they have a vehicle on their bumper? This can only be because that driver is breaking whatever the limit is. On learning to drive I was told by a very wise man: 'anyone can drive fast, it's stopping that is the problem'. On taking an advanced driving course, before getting behind a wheel we were told 'at times 5mph is too fast and at other times 70mph is not fast enough'. It is all to do with driver judgement, awareness and, most importantly, observations. If drivers disregard any one of those, the standard of driving in this country will continue to cause death and injury.

P LOWE
Brierley Hill

Hippodrome could fill in for Civic Hall

I SEE Wolverhampton Civic Hall is looking for a temporary venue, what's wrong with Dudley Hippodrome?

If West Bromwich is looking to compete with the Civic, I can only assume live entertainment is pretty popular these days. Why can't Dudley Council see this?

They harp on about theatres struggling but they don't listen to me. I live in the real world. I know entertainers are crying out for the Hippo to reopen. It can be a multi-purpose venue that can cater for bands easily, also as theatre in the future too.

Good luck to the Civic, I've been there many times, and the Grand for that matter. Hat's off to West Bromwich for supporting its lovely Town Hall. And open your eyes DMBBC. Stop trying to destroy our amazing Black Country heritage and start going out more. To the Hippodrome!

G SAWERS
(Black Country Gaz)
Brierley Hill

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Ukulele lady entertains the group

Penn TG

MRS McInnes welcomed everyone to the last meeting and introduced the speaker Gabriella, known as the 'Ukulele Lady'.

She immediately set the scene with the "Telephone Song" from around 1923, and followed with "You are my Sunshine". Gabriella had several ukuleles, all different in size and all with different sounds.

Ukuleles originated in Portugal and workers from there went to work in Hawaii in 1879 cutting sugar cane and they took their instruments with them.

Hawaiians started playing ukuleles, swaying and wearing grass skirts and flowers as they danced.

Gabriella skilfully involved the audience in her stories and it was a wonderfully funny evening.

The Gardening Group visited the Dower House at Morville. It was a delightful garden and coffee and homemade shortcake was served in the house.

A group of ladies from St Bart's Church, Penn formed a band and entertained the Social Studies group.

The Guild had chosen a few songs and the band supplied the others as members sang along to some old popular tunes. Strawberries and cream were served in the break and everyone had a very enjoyable evening.

On September 10, Andrew Lound will speak about 'Scott of the Antarctic' at an open meeting. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £3. On September 24 Ed Shore's topic will be 'Cycling Across America'.

Members join fun of Alice themed party

Wollaston 'E' TWG

Guest has Wisdom of his subject's life

Quarry Bank E TWG

Wellington Road, Dudley, on November 12.

The speaker for this evening was Mike Sampson and his topic was 'The life and career of Norman Wisdom'.

He certainly knew his subject, from the days of poverty and hardship, through time spent in the navy and army to the time of success and the meeting with such illustrious show-business stars as Marilyn Monroe, Laurel and Hardy and Charlie Chaplin.

Mrs Raybould was the group's representative at the National AGM. She gave an excellent report of the items discussed and voted upon and also of the venue choice.

Tickets for the Federation Lunch at the Mill Hotel were distributed.

Social secretary Mrs Writtle gave final information regarding the visit and afternoon tea at David Austin Roses. The names were taken of those wishing to visit 'The Lodge',

on old fashioned roses.

She was a superb speaker, taking everyone through the centuries with the different smelling roses.

This was well attended and everyone agreed it was a worthy meeting. It ended up with "Question Time" which went on for some time and Sue patiently answered

every question, followed by coffee and biscuits. A plant sale took place as usual.

The chairman suggested that members may like to open up their own gardens during the coming year for viewing by the club.

In Clent Parish Hall on August 22 there will be a practical demonstration on "Pruning" by John Millington.

Speaker rose to the occasion

Client Gardening Club

THE club had a wonderful evening on July 25 listening to a talk by Sue Russell on old fashioned roses.

She was a superb speaker, taking everyone through the centuries with the different smelling roses.

This was well attended and everyone agreed it was a worthy meeting. It ended up with "Question Time" which went on for some time and Sue patiently answered

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Together again after 18 months of heartbreak

THEY met, fell in love and married 14 years ago — only to have their lives ripped apart when immigration officials stopped them living together in the UK.

Eighteen months after their struggle with the Home Office began, Robert and Adna Cooper are back in each others' arms in Dudley after winning a landmark appeal.

Adna, 35, has been granted a visa to move back to the UK from her homeland of Brazil to be with her 39-year-old husband. It came after Adna, who was refused permanent entry to the UK last year, won an appeal process which ended in May with an immigration hearing in Birmingham.

Home

Robert was finally able to bring his wife home to Pensnett last week. The pair, who have spent about £5,000 on legal costs, are desperate to move on with their lives following their ordeal.

Robert, a pastor for the First Reformed Presbyterian Church, said: "It has been really difficult for her. She felt almost like a second class citizen, not being allowed to return here with me." Adna said: "It was an extremely difficult period for me, the whole situation of being refused, being apart, unable to carry on with our lives, spending all our savings, was unbearable."

The couple met when Robert, a former pupil at Pensnett School, was doing church work in the suburbs of São Paulo in 1999. They returned to the UK the following year and Adna was given a resident visa before they married at Kingswinford Christian Centre in July. After returning to Brazil in 2003, the pair encountered problems on wanting to return to the UK ten years later.



Reunited — married couple Robert and Adna Cooper, of Pensnett

Under new immigration rules, only British people who earn more than £18,600 can sponsor their non-European spouse's visa. Robert earned enough but he was unable to get pay slips to prove it due to his employer being a non-profit organisation and the pair were forced to live apart.

The pair managed to overturn the Home Office decision after giving evidence at a hearing in Birmingham and the pair now live with Robert's parents in Comber Drive. Robert said: "They are discriminating and being unfair to many families. We are not just numbers and names, we are people."

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Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director, Nathan Beddoes started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today. He explains his passion:

"I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install."

With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 20 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

"Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services," explains Nathan.

"For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries," says Nathan.

One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having been recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

"Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out."

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return.

"We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of," remarked Rick.

Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers.

"Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless muted 'National Trust' tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white," explains Nathan.

Fitting new PVC-U windows can be a good choice for the environment as well as for your home. Replacing dated double glazing can help save money on heating bills and reduce the carbon footprint of a residence.

"We offer A-rated energy-efficient windows and doors which can help save up to £250 from heating bills in the first year alone. They not only reflect heat back into the house, but also retain heat from solar gain," explains Nathan.

"As a company we pride ourselves on giving old fashioned value for money and excellent service, we can undertake the majority of jobs and because we manufacture in house at our premises unlike the majority of our local competitors it enables us to have full control so we can manage your project from start to completion ensuring your experience is stress free".

"After many years in the Double glazing business we have seen a lot of competitors come and go, unfortunately leaving many customers without any warranty, after parting with their hard earned cash. Any customer who is considering having any home improvements should choose carefully and do their homework on the company they are considering, ensure if you part with money upfront it is protected by a Fensa approved deposit indemnity scheme, ask to visit previous customers but most importantly don't be fooled by the salesmen's tactics of a tempting "sign on the night low price offer" that the double glazing industry is notorious for" advises Nathan.

The old sayings are always the best - after a low price is long forgotten, poor quality long remains".

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PRIORY School has just been rated 'good' by Ofsted with inspectors saying it's on track to be outstanding.

What a phenomenal achievement by the school's brilliant head teacher Jill Bennett who has worked so hard to turn the school around after it ended up in special measures a couple of years ago. We should all be congratulating Ms Bennett, her staff, the governors, parents, pupils and everyone else who have turned the school around.

We've got to get behind heads and teachers like her who are working hard to improve local schools. It's been a similar story at Ellower Hall. Results are improving at Castle High and Dormston is being turned around too, and I don't see why every school should not be aiming to be a good or outstanding school.

It just shows that we are as good as anyone. With the right support, young people from Dudley can do just as well as those anywhere else. Why should children born in Dudley face worse education prospects than children born elsewhere in the country? I am determined to change this by making education our number one priority in Dudley to bring better schools, better skills and better jobs to the area.

There's no reason why we shouldn't set the ambition for Dudley and the Black Country to have the biggest improvement in schools standards in the country. These results show that we can do it.

I regularly visit local

THE WAY I SEE IT



Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views

'With the right support, young people from Dudley can do just as well as those anywhere else. We are as good as anyone.'

Last week the Government finally listened to local people's concerns and announced long-overdue action to tackle UK jobs being advertised abroad. These are issues that I have been campaigning on for a long time, so I'm pleased that 60,000 West Midlands jobs will no longer be advertised abroad and that there will be new limits on benefits for migrants. But it's too little too late. I revealed the number of local jobs being advertised overseas more than a year ago and I've been calling for benefit restrictions for even longer than that.

I think that immigration has brought benefits to Britain. But if you want to live here you've got to be prepared to work hard and pay your way. I share concerns about the impact immigration has had on people in Dudley and the Black Country.

That's why I have always supported measures like the last Government's introduction of an Australian-style points system.

There's still much more we can do. People shouldn't be able to work in Britain and send back tax credits. They shouldn't be able to come to Britain and be unemployed and they shouldn't be able to come to Britain as soon as their country joins the EU.

If you have always worked hard and contributed taxes you should be entitled to more help than someone who has never worked and never contributed. That way we can make sure that the system is fair to local people.

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Man was found dead in garage

A MAN was found hanged in the garage of his home in Kingswinford.

Police discovered the body of 45-year-old Mark Pinches after being called to his address in Murdoch Drive on April 4. Smethwick Coroners Court this week heard officers had found him hanged by a rope from the beams of the garage ceiling. He was confirmed dead at the scene by paramedics.

Senior Black Country coroner Mr Robin Balmain said the cause of death had been asphyxia. There was no sign of alcohol in his system. Mr Pinches had not left a note.

His sister Karen Yates said he had been a 'loved and well-respected man' with a lot of friends.

Mr Balmain gave a conclusion that Mr Pinches had hanged himself.

Child pornography offender, aged 61, walks free from court

A MAN who posted 1,174 images of child pornography and six indecent video clips on to a website walked free from court after a judge was told about his wife's poor health.

Andrew Waddell-Tillbrook, aged 61, from Park Road, Netherton, was made the subject of a three-year supervision order with a requirement to take part in a sex-offenders' programme when he appeared before Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

By Mark Andrews

Mr Tom Walkling, defending, said there was a good prospect that his client could be rehabilitated. He had no previous convictions.

He added that Waddell-Tillbrook's wife of 35 years was extremely ill, having undergone heart surgery and spinal and abdominal treatment.

"She relies on my client for support," said Mr Walkling.

Judge Alan Parker said Waddell-Tillbrook's behaviour was 'utterly repellent' but had taken account of his wife's serious illness, and believed that a community order was the best way to ensure he did not reoffend.

Safety work being planned for bend

A CAMPAIGN for safety improvements on a 'dangerous' bend in Upper Gornal has taken a step forward.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has been calling for work to be carried out on the bend where Church Street and Temple Street meet.

More than 500 signatures were collected for a petition which prompted Dudley Council to carry out a review and Mr Austin said he hoped work would now be carried out later this year.

He said: "The council have informed us that safety improvements will be made as part of a programme of works later this year. We are expecting new warning signs and road markings at a minimum."

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The self-employed IT worker was also ordered to register as a sex offender for five years and was disqualified from working with children for the same period.

The court was told that at a previous hearing, Waddell-Tillbrook admitted five counts of distributing child porn and five further counts of possessing indecent images of children.

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Lifesaving Badgers need new generation of recruits

CHILDREN'S first aid groups in the Black Country face an uncertain future due to fewer recruits.

Sandwell and Dudley branches of the St John Ambulance Badger groups need more volunteers when sessions start again in September.

The first aid charity says numbers are getting low and they are looking for more youngsters aged five to 10. The Badgers teach the next generation of first aiders, as the children learn important life saving skills and team work. They also take part in activities such as camping.

Carolyn Zivoder, regional youth co-ordinator for St John Ambulance, said: "Badgers learn the life saving skills which could one day be the difference between a life lost and a life saved. However, becoming a Badger isn't only about learning first aid. It's a great way to make new friends

and, most importantly, have fun in a safe environment. Many St John Ambulance volunteers who start as Badgers stay with us for many years and end up working in the medical profession."

Research carried out by St John Ambulance shows that less than one in seven West Midlands residents know even the basic life saving skills — so teaching children from an early age could make a big difference.

The Dudley group, which only has three regular members, meets on Thursdays at Ollis Hall, Vicar Street. The Sandwell group also meet on Thursdays, at the charity's centre in Roe buck Lane in West Bromwich. Sessions for both start again in September after a summer break.

Contact Carolyn Zivoder on 0121 236 6660 or email carolyn.zivoder@sjfa.org.uk



Sandwell Badgers Aaron Gough and Charlie Jerrison Eglington with leaders Marie and Neil Evans

£10m fund will help more young people work

A £10 million fund will be spent in the Black Country to help turn around the lives of 1,400 deprived young people.

The money from the Big Lottery Fund is being aimed at 18 to 24-year-olds who have been out of work or education for more than a year — as well as carers, ex-drug addicts and young offenders.

Six 'hubs' are to be set up in Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley and Walsall from September.

The scheme, called Talent Match Black Country, is intended to help them overcome their individual problems that stop them getting into work. It will work with young parents, travelling families, disabled young people and the homeless to get them in touch with employers and help them to develop skills.

There will also be mentoring of each individual young person involved by trained staff including those who have been through similar problems.

The project is being overseen by Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council. Its chief executive Ian Darch said: "Young people themselves will be at the very centre of this and will make up half of the steering group."

"We want to help young people who have been out of employment, education or training for 12 months or more and support them into work. Each young person will be working with a mentor."

Young people will be referred to the scheme through the Job Centre or

the scheme has had a success rate of 47 per cent.

Many will not look after elderly parents

ALMOST a third of people in the West Midlands would not look after their ageing parents if they needed full time care, a survey has found.

Charity bosses from Age UK say the figures reflect a worrying trend across the country.

Figures released by the charity showed that 20 per cent of people in the UK thought they lacked the necessary skills to care for their parents. Of the 29 per cent of West Midlands people who said they would not look after their parents full time, half said their house wasn't big enough and 43 per cent said they wouldn't be able to cope.

Jeni Rushton, care manager at Care UK, said: "From our experience, the thought of putting parents in a care home can come with great concern. Often the decision is made at a crisis point. This is why we encourage people to discuss the subject of care with their parents before it becomes a necessity."

Residents to discuss issues at meetings

RESIDENTS will be able to discuss issues and concerns about their estates at a series of meetings taking place across Dudley borough.

Dudley Council has organised the tenants and residents association events which will be held in Dudley, Stourbridge and Brierley Hill.

The first event will be the Corbys Bromley meeting held on August 18 at the senior citizens club, in Brierley Hill, from 6.30pm.

It will be followed by the Parkes Street tenants and residents association meeting at the Limes Social Club, also Brierley Hill, on August 21 at 7.30pm.

New Wrens Nest tenants and residents association will meet at Wrens Nest Community Centre, Dudley, on August 11 at 7pm.

In Stourbridge, the Love Claycroft tenants and residents association will hold a fun day at the Green, in Saddlers Close, from 10am until 1pm.

Anyone who wishes to attend the meetings should telephone (01384) 815168 to ensure the meeting is still taking place, as they may be subject to change.

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AN ASSISTANT pub manager is aiming to raise thousands of pounds for three charities following the death of her mother and two friends.

Amiee Hadlington lost her mother Lynda Gadsden after she suffered a heart attack aged 54.

Then her friend Loreen Timmins also died of a heart attack aged 54 just six months later.

Her close friend Tommy Bona lost his battle with pancreatic cancer four years ago at the age of 43.

Diagnosed

And in the last six months her one-year-old niece Lexi has been diagnosed with Fanconi Syndrome, a condition which affects the kidneys.

Now the 29-year-old mother-of-one is organising a fundraiser on August 17 at The Swan Inn in Gospel End Street, Sedgley, where she works, to raise cash for three charities — The British Heart Foundation, Pancreatic Cancer UK and Fanconi Hope.

Amiee said: "Mum was only young when she had a heart attack and so was Lor, so the British Heart Foundation is a charity which is close to my heart. Tommy was so full of life and when he died he left behind his wife and two children."

"My niece is such a lovely baby so I want to raise money to fund research for pancreatic cancer and Fanconi Syndrome. Ideally I want to raise at least £1,000 but hopefully people will dig deep in their pockets and if it all goes well I will hold another fun day in the future."

During the 11am to 7pm event there will be singers, karaoke, disco, face painting, name the teddy competition, stalls, a barbecue and bouncy castle.

There will also be a tombola with special prizes including a trip to



Aimee Hadlington and her son Tyler get ready for The Swan Inn's charity day



Fundraising inspired by Lynda Gadsden, Loreen Timmins and Tommy Bona

Blackpool, a meal for two and a signed picture of chart-topping Canadian crooner Michael Bublé.

Amiee, of Rosewood Road, Dudley, added: "I am looking for anyone who can donate prizes to raffle off as well as a beautician who would give up their time for a charity wax off."

To donate items, offer services or for more information about the charity day contact Mrs Hadlington on 07929 131068.

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Pub family event is helping three charities

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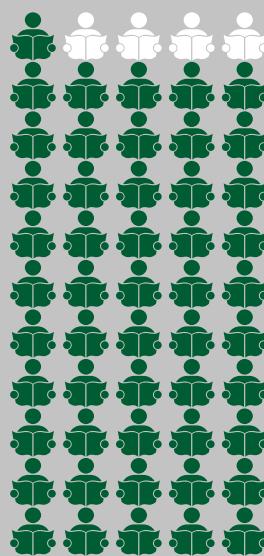


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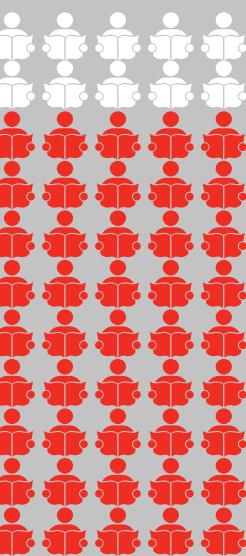
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Dudley News

DUDLEY CHRONICLE

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Drunk teacher crashed into van while banned

A TEACHER from Dudley crashed his car into a van while drunk just two weeks after being disqualified from driving, a court heard.

Father-of-two Michael Chapman smashed into the back of a Ford Transit van in Standhills Road, Kingswinford, on April 30 and then drove off, Dudley Magistrates' Court was told. He was followed by the van's driver who stopped him and called police and paramedics.

Chapman, who was driving without insurance, was taken to hospital and a blood sample was taken. Alcohol in his system measured 102 milligrammes. The legal limit for driving is 80 milligrammes per 100 millilitres of blood.

The 39-year-old, of Penzer Street, Kingswinford, had previously been disqualified for 20 months for an offence of drink driving that had taken place on March 25.

Course

At a hearing on June 18, Chapman pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle when above the alcohol limit, use of a motor vehicle without third party insurance, driving while disqualified and failing to stop after a road accident.

Last week he was handed a 16-week prison sentence suspended for 12 months and was also disqualified from driving for 40 months and put on a supervision order for a year. He has to pay £85 costs, an £80 surcharge and was told to attend a drink driving course.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said Chapman, who now works as an ICT curriculum leader at a school in Birmingham, made a full and frank admission to the offences.

Miss Catherine Janor, defending, said Chapman had been experiencing a breakdown following a traumatic event that had led to the loss of his job. "My client was in a fragile state of mind on the day," she added.

Deputy District Judge Munro, told Chapman: "You are highly regarded and this offence can only be said to be out of character."

Wave of nostalgia at zoo



Chief executive Peter Suddock at the restored entrance to Dudley Zoo

DUDLEY Zoo's iconic 'wave' entrance has been restored to its former glory with a new lick of paint and dramatic lighting.

The eye-catching building on Castle Hill has been restored to its original blue colour and lights have been put behind the 'zoo' letters to make them stand out at night.

Metal meshing has been repainted and part of the roof, a series of S-shaped interlocking canopies, has been repaired.

Chief executive Peter Suddock said he was delighted with the revamped entrance.

"Painting work on the entrance has been completed and we are really pleased with the results."

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MNA Media



RAFA members at the clubhouse in Dixons Green Road, Dudley, in the 1970s



RAFA members working on the clubhouse in Dixons Green Road, Dudley, in 1974



Members enjoying a beer and comradeship at the Dudley branch of RAFA



President John Deane, vice-chairman Tony Timmins, associate member Margaret Bloomer and Secretary Sgt Stan West

RAF Association branch seeking new members

ONCE hundreds of members came together in remembrance, raised a pint with their comrades and enjoyed social evenings.

But now a Royal Air Force Association branch is facing an uncertain future unless they attract a new generation of members.

The 621 (Dudley) branch of the Royal Air Force Association has a proud history dating back almost 70 years.

Some earned their wings in Hurricane fighters as battles raged in the skies during the Second World War while others grafted during their National Service.

Numbers of veterans have dwindled over the years from hundreds until now only three active full members remain.

Two associate members, those who have not served for the RAF, also attend meetings and have helped draft a new social calendar.

MEMORY LANE

By Andrew Turton

The group hope to attract some of the 50 members still on the books back to regular meetings while also bringing new people on board. Otherwise members may have to instead join the Wolverhampton branch.

Flying the flag for the branch are three members who still hold weekly meetings for free at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, in Hall Street, Dudley.

Future

This year marks the 50th year that branch president John Deane, aged 77, has been involved with the association. Having joined the Air Training Corp in 1951 he went on to complete two years of National Service with the RAF.

Mr Deane, of Kingswinford, said they were keen to ensure the club has a future as well as a proud past. "We are struggling. It would be a shame if it could not continue," he added.

Branch secretary Sergeant Stan West, of Tipton, joined the RAF Association branch around seven years ago. He had previously been part of the 347 Squadron working in air electronics.

"One of the problems that we know is that certain people, because of age, don't want to come out at night. But if they arrange it for us then we would pick them up," he said.

The club opened in 1947 in a rented room over the old Dudley Fire Station in Priory Road. In December 1972 the association bought the former home of Bob Kennedy, impresario of Dudley Hippodrome, in Dixons Green Road. Many social events and charity fundraisers were held over the years. Among well known members was George Heritage, one of the last Hurricane pilots and a survivor of three plane crashes.

The clubhouse was sold four years ago. Now the group meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 8pm at the Ex-Servicemen's Club. To find out more call John on (01384) 830574 or Stan on 0121 530 2970.



RAFA on the march taking part in a Remembrance Day parade in Dudley in the early 1970s

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Dudley's £6.7m market place redevelopment

Castle Street and New Street to re-open

Castle Street, New Street and Fisher Street in Dudley town centre will re-open to general traffic this weekend, with buses operating as normal from Sunday 10 August.

Phase one of this exciting project to transform Dudley town centre includes, laying high quality natural stone on roads and pavements, creating new car parking bays in Castle Street, disabled parking, a drop off point for park and ride and a motorcycle bay for three motorcycles as well as new lighting columns, seating and litter bins. The new public toilets also opened in Castle Street in July.

Dudley Council would like to thank shops, businesses, residents and shoppers for their continued patience during this time and hope that people continue to support their town centre.

Work on the market place itself started a few weeks ago and continues to progress well.

To find out more visit <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/business/regeneration/dudleymarketplaceredvelopment>

Follow updates on facebook and twitter at www.dudley.gov.uk, sign up to receive regular updates via email by contacting dudleymarketplace@dudley.gov.uk or call **Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345.**

The full project is set for completion by early 2015.

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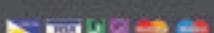
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Crews rescue terrified horse from the canal



By hook or by crook – this is the dramatic moment that rescue workers dragged a stricken horse from the canal at Coseley

THIS was the dramatic moment fire crews rescued a terrified horse trapped in a 6ft deep stretch of a Black Country canal.

The stricken animal had fallen into the water near Walbrook Bridge at Coseley while tethered to ground nearby.

When the crews from Tipton arrived they found the animal struggling to keep its head above the water.

It had been unable to stand because of the depth of the water and had been

forced to try to swim to prevent itself from drowning.

The alarm was raised by a passing boat owner at around 8am yesterday. A technical rescue unit devised plans to pull the horse out of the canal under the guidance of the RSPCA.

Shallow

They were able to cut the chain and guide the animal to a shallower area by the edge of the canal.

With the support of the fire service's Technical Rescue Unit, a team of eight firefighters used long slings to hoist the horse from the water and

to safety. Tipton watch commander Keith Hampton said the rescue took about 45 minutes.

"When we got there we saw the large horse tethered by a chain trying to swim."

"It must have been tethered nearby and fallen in the canal."

"It's not an easy job rescuing a horse, which is why I called the Technical Rescue Unit from Wednesbury, which has the right equipment for the job."

The horse was not injured but was said to be in shock because of the ordeal.

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Midge and Kiki in feast of the arts

SINGERS Midge Ure and Kiki Dee, broadcaster Joan Bakewell, actress Judy Cornwell and former Labour minister Chris Mullin form part of a varied bill as this year's Bewdley Festival celebrates its 27th year.

It will bring a feast the arts to the Worcestershire town for 10 days in October. Ultravox' and Band Aid star Midge Ure opens the festival on October 10, his 61st birthday.

The line-up also includes comedian Hal Cruttenden, jazz star Courtney Pine, actress Jo Enright, pianist Andrei Gavrilov, historian Max Keen and a festival finale from The Overtures.

See www.bewdleyfestivals.org.uk for tickets also available on 01905 611427 or from Bewdley Tourist Information Centre.

Real Estate sounds like good investment

BROOKLYN-BASED rock quintet Real Estate will be in concert at Digbeth venue The Institute on October 24.

The band originally from New Jersey have made one of best rock albums of the year so far with their Chicago-recorded *Atlas*, a slow burning sleeper hit of an album that is likely to be on many hipster summer playlists.

The Birmingham date (tickets £14.50) follows their appearance at The Green Man Festival in Wales this month and the release of new single *Had To Hear* coupled with their cover of The Nerves' *Paper Dolls*.

1970s musical is all set to be a real Blockbuster in Brum

California sunshine Creation

AMERICAN duo The Pierces are coming to Birmingham's Glee Club next month as part of a ten city UK tour to support their new album *Creation*.

It is the follow-up to sisters Allison and Catherine Pierce's 2011 breakthrough album, *You & I*, when the Alabama-born siblings also played the club venue in The Arcadian Centre.

Glorious

That album yielded radio favourites *You'll Be Mine*, *Glorious* and *It Will Not Be Forgotten*. It also won the girls a support slot to Coldplay.

Now resident in California, *Creation* reflects the duo's West Coast sun-drenched location while retaining the breezy, melodic charm of their previous folk/pop work, and includes single *Kings*.

Creation is out on September 1 and The Pierces play the Glee on September 24. Tickets £16.



The Pierces — sisters Catherine, left, and Allison

FROM Sweet to Suzi Quatro, chart hits from the 1970s and 80s will feature in a new family musical arriving in Birmingham next month.

The cast of *Blockbuster The Musical* includes 70s pop star and TV sit-com actor Paul Nicholas along with former *He's a Lady* and *Emmerdale* star Suzanne Shaw.

The show is staged at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham from September 23 to 27.

Paul Nicholas will play *Crazy Max* in the musical featuring the hits of the songwriting team Nicky Chinn and Mike Chapman.

Blockbuster the Musical begins in the modern era with Mickey Block, a young busker, singing in London's Soho. But when he crashes a car without insurance he is pursued by a loan shark and has to take refuge in *Crazy Max's* Retro Record shop.

Mystical Max tells him he can turn his life around if he performs two selfless deeds within seven days — and then finds himself transported back in time to London in 1975.

Friends

Paul Nicholas became a household favourite with his role as Vince in the award-winning BBC TV series *Just Good Friends*. His theatrical success began in 1969 in the original London production of *Hair*. This was followed by leading roles in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Grease*, *Cats*, *Blondel* and *Charlie Girl*.

He also appeared as the Pirate King in a highly successful production of *The Pirates of Penzance* and starred in the first ever national tour of *Barnum*.

In more recent years he has had a successful career as a theatre producer.

He said: "I am hoping it will be an entertaining family show."

"People can bring their children and also be reminded of the great songs from the 70s."

Suzanne is best known for winning the ITV show *Popstars: The Rivals* and being in *He's a Lady* from 2001 to 2003.

She has since carved out a career in the



Paul Nicholas and Suzanne Shaw star in a musical

West End, appearing in Chicago and The Rocky Horror Picture Show as well as becoming a regular on TV screens playing Eve Jensen in *Emmerdale*.

The book of the musical has been penned by David Soames, who co-wrote the musical *Time for Cliff Richard* which ran for two years in the West End.

The huge number of hits featured in the show will include chart-toppers by Sweet, Suzi Quatro, Smokie, Tina Turner and Mud, including *Ballroom Blitz*, *Blockbuster*, *Teenager Rampage*, *Little Willy*, *Tiger Feet*, *Devil Gate Drive*, *Can the Can*, *Some Girls*, *Lay Back in the Arms of Someone*, *Living Next Door to Alice*, *Better Be Good to Me* and *Mickey*.

Asia putting back gig by 48 hours

ROCK band Asia have changed their date for a Black Country gig.

The British band had been due to play Wolverhampton's Wulfrun Hall on October 30 but this has been moved by 48 hours to November 1. Promoters said the change was due to the band having media commitments.

The British supergroup's 1982 debut album was the biggest selling album in America that year. The band reunited in 2006 and the latest four man line up includes John Wetton guitar and vocals, Carl Palmer drums, Geoff Downes keyboards and new guitarist Bromsgrove-born Sam Coulson, stepping into Steve Howe's shoes. They have a new album out entitled *Gravitas*.

War and fairy tale themes at ballet

CLASSIC ballets will be part of Birmingham Royal Ballet's autumn programme at its home theatre, Birmingham Hippodrome.

From September 30 to October 4, the timeless fairy tale *Beauty and the Beast* will return to the repertoire for magical performances choreographed by company director David Bintley.

The *Shadows of War* will follow from October 8 to 11, including Kenneth MacMillan's *La Fin du Jour*, Bintley's *Flowers of the Forest* and Gillian Lynne's reworking of Robert Helpmann's groundbreaking 1940s work *Miracle in the Gorbals*.

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CHOICE



Sarah Harding

Tumble (BBC1, 6.30pm)

Alex Jones hosts this celebrity contest in which famous faces perform gymnastics and circus skills for a judging panel including world-renowned Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci and Team GB medallist Louis Smith. Braving the tough training - and the tight spandex costumes - are world super-middleweight boxing champion Carl Froch, singers Amelle Berrabah and Sarah Harding, EastEnders actor John Partridge, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, Steps singer Ian 'H' Watkins, one-time Dynasty actress Emma Samms, Loose Women anchor Andrea McLean and former TOWIE star Lucy Mecklenburgh. They begin with either an acrobatic floor routine or by performing on the aerial hoop, and there is an extra treat as judge Louis Smith leads a performance with his London 2012 team-mates.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live, 11.30 The Great British Bake Off. 12.30 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.00 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Warrington Wolves v Leeds Rhinos (Kick-off 2.30pm). 4.30 Final Score. 2.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 5.40 Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 **Tumble**. New series. Alex Jones hosts this celebrity contest in which famous faces perform gymnastics and circus skills for a judging panel including world-renowned Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci and Team GB medallist Louis Smith. Braving the tough training - and the tight spandex costumes - are world super-middleweight boxing champion Carl Froch, singers Amelle Berrabah and Sarah Harding, EastEnders actor John Partridge, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, Steps singer Ian 'H' Watkins, one-time Dynasty actress Emma Samms, Loose Women anchor Andrea McLean and former TOWIE star Lucy Mecklenburgh. They begin with either an acrobatic floor routine or by performing on the aerial hoop, and there is an extra treat as judge Louis Smith leads a performance with his London 2012 team-mates.

8.00 **The National Lottery: Break the Safe**. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs compete to play for a cash prize.

8.50 **A Face from the Past**. A face from the past jeopardises Rita's future, while Lofty and Cal manage to create a family struggling to cope with their autistic son thanks to some creative thinking. Returning after a four-week break.

9.40 **Mrs Brown's Boys**. Rory and Dino have a bust-up, Mark and Betty announce they are leaving for Canada, Rita's away and a phone call causes the Brown children to suspect one of them may be adopted. (R)

10.10 **BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update**.

10.30 **Michael McIntyre's Showtime**. Stand-up comedy performed at the O2 in London during his 10-night run in 2012. (R)

11.30 **The Football League Show**.

12.50 **Weather for the Week Ahead**. 12.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.25 **Film: The Falcon and the Co-Eds**. (1943) 7.30 **Film: The Falcon Out West**. (1944) 8.35 **The Living Planet**. (R) 9.30 **Sweets Made Simple**. (R) 10.00 **Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo**. (R) 10.30 **Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo**. (R) 11.00 **Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo**. (R) 11.30 **Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo**. (R) 12.00 **Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo**. (R) 12.30 **Rick Stein's India**. (R) 1.30 **John Mills: Talking Pictures**. (R) 2.05 **Film: We Dine at Dawn**. (1943) Adventure, starring John Mills. 3.40 **Frog Flies**. (R) 4.00 **Natural World: A Bear with a Bum**. (R) 5.00 **Live Cycling**.

6.00 **Great War Diaries**. A second batch of dramatic reconstructions based on the letters and journals people whose lives were affected by the First World War. A young Cossack girl experiences a gas attack on the Russian front; an Austrian soldier as he is transported to Siberia; and a Scottish volunteer nurse desperately tries to help the survivors of the genocide in Armenia. A turned-in Italian-American believes he is possessed by the Holy Spirit; a British officer has to act as tour guide for an MP; a German soldier witnesses the horrors of the Somme and a schoolgirl is drawn into a brief romance with a young airman.

7.00 **Celebrity Antiques Road Trip**. Fern Britton goes up against her husband Phil Vickery in the heirloom-hunting challenge, with expert advice from Mark Stacey and James Braxton. (R)

8.00 **Dad's Army**. A daring bid to rescue Walker and Godfrey from a strike-pushing station ends with Mainwaring and his whole platoon trapped and facing the prospect of drowning. (R)

8.30 **Proms Extra 2014**. Katie Derham is joined by opera star Willard White, who performs in the studio.

9.15 **Melvyn Bragg's Radical Lives**. Part two of two. The broadcaster examines the life of 18th-century English radical Thomas Paine, whose works inspired the American and French revolutions.

10.15 **QI XL**. Extended edition. (R)

11.00 **Film: Seraphim Falls**. (2006) Western thriller, starring Pierce Brosnan and Angelina Jolie.

12.45 **Film: Mother's Boys**. (1994) 2.15 This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 **CITV: Pat & Stan**. 6.10 **Pat & Stan**. (R) 6.20 **Pat & Stan**. (R) 6.25 **Dino Dan**. (R) 6.35 **Dino Dan**. (R) 6.50 **Canimals**. (R) 6.55 **Canimals**. (R) 7.05 **Sooty**. (R) 7.15 **Monsters**. (R) 7.40 **Mr Bean**: The Animated Series. (R) 7.55 **Chowder**. (R) 8.10 **Chowder**. (R) 8.25 **ITV News: 8.30** Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover. (R) 3.25 **All Star My & Mrs**. (R) 4.25 **Film: Houseitters**. (1992) Romantic comedy, starring Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn.

6.20 **Regional Programme; Weather**.

6.30 **ITV News: Weather**.

6.45 **The Guide to You've Been Framed**. Comedian Harry Hill presents a compilation of viewer-submitted comic clips, including a dog on a slide, a cat trying to take part in a game of table tennis, and an elderly woman falling foul of a micro-scooter. (R)

7.45 **Tipping Point: Lucky Stars**. Impressionist and comedian Jon Culshaw, TV and radio presenter Jenni Falconer and former Dancing on Ice judge Jason Gardiner take turns on the arcade-style token-pushing machine. Dropping counters down a choice of four chutes, the celebrity contestants hope to knock piles of them off a moving shelf - and the more they collect, the better their chances of scooping the £20,000 prize for a charity of their choice. Game show, hosted by Ben Shephard.

8.45 **All Star Family Fortunes**. Casualty's Patrick Robinson and Big Brother's Bit on the Side host Ryan Clark team up with their families to win money for charity. Vernon Kay presents the game show. (R)

9.45 **Film: Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope**. (1977) Farm boy Luke Skywalker sets out to rescue a princess from the clutches of evil Darth Vader. George Lucas's sci-fi adventure, starring Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford and Carrie Fisher. Continues after the News.

10.40 **ITV News: Weather**.

10.55 **Film: Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope**. (1977) Concluded.

12.30 **The Cube**. (R) 1.20 **Jackpot247**. 3.00 **The Jeremy Kyle Show USA**. (R) 3.40 **ITV Nightscreen**.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 **Trans World Sport**. 7.00 **Armoy Road Races**. 8.00 **The Morning Line**. 9.00 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. (R) 9.25 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. (R) 9.55 **Frasier**. (R) 10.25 **Frasier**. (R) 10.55 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 11.20 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 11.45 **The Simpsons**. (R) 12.10 **The Simpsons**. (R) 12.40 **Speed with Guy Martin**. (R) 1.40 **Channel 4 Racing**. Live coverage from Ascot, Haydock Park and Newmarket.

4.10 **Come Dine with Me**. (R) 4.40 **Come Dine with Me**. (R) 5.10 **Come Dine with Me**. (R) 6.15 **Come Dine with Me**. Businessman Ken Brown hosts the final dinner party in Co Durham and Wearside, and provides his guests with some unique entertainment before the winner is announced. (R)

6.40 **Channel 4 News**.

7.05 **Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year**. George Clarke presents the Normal and Shed Show categories, featuring a Dad's Army-themed creation and a 1970s amusement park, before choosing the overall winner. Last in the series. (R)

8.00 **Grand Designs**. Kevin McCloud follows interior designer Kathryn Tyler as she tries to create a Scandinavian-style eco house in her mother's back garden in Cornwall. The plan is ambitious, featuring a white-painted brick ground floor, a lightweight timber-frame first floor and cleverly designed spaces, but the small size of the plot and Kathryn's inexperience could hamper the project. (R)

9.00 **Film: Immortals**. (2011) Premiere. A power-mad ancient Greek king raises an army with the intention of not only conquering the known world, but using a mystical weapon to unleash the legendary titans and overthrow the gods. The immortal deities are unable to interfere directly, so select a mortal to be their champion and defeat the titans. Mythological adventure, starring Henry Cavill and Mickey Rourke.

11.10 **Film: Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**. (2008) A Victorian barber obsessed with revenge takes to murdering his clients. Tim Burton's adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's musical horror, starring Johnny Depp.

1.15 **The Last Leg**. (R) 2.00 **Utopia**. (R) 2.55 **Homeland**. (R) 4.00 **Hollyoaks**.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 **Milkshake!** 10.00 **Access**. 10.10 **Meerkat Manor**. (R) 10.40 **Police Interceptors**. (R) 11.00 **Ultimate Police Interceptors**. (R) 12.40 **Film: Rocky IV**. (1985) Boxing drama, starring Sylvester Stallone. 2.30 **Film: Any Which Way You Can**. (1980) Comedy sequel, starring Clint Eastwood. 4.40 **Film: The Sea Wolves**. (1980) Second World War adventure, with Gregory Peck.

7.00 **Cricket on 5**. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from the third day of the Fourth Test at Old Trafford as the five-match series continued. England boast an excellent recent record here in this format, having won six and drawn two of their last eight Tests, including a stalemate against Australia in their last match at this venue 12 months ago. Commentary and analysis by Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Vaughan, Sunil Gavaskar and Simon Hughes.

8.00 **World's Worst Storms**. Documentary featuring footage of some of the world's most extreme weather captured by those who survived it. In Indianapolis, freak winds cause a 32-ton stage to collapse on top of spectators. Hurricane Sandy strikes a small coastal town in New York and a tornado tears a peaceful Illinois neighbourhood to pieces. (R)

8.55 **5 News Weekend**.

9.00 **Big Brother**. Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house. Including another chance to see last night's eviction, revealing the latest unlucky housemate who was given just 30 seconds to say their goodbyes, and how their departure has affected the others.

10.00 **Dangerous Dog Owners & Proud**. People whose dogs are either illegal, trained to be dangerous, or both, including a man who can make his red-nosed pit bull behave aggressively with a simple command. (R)

11.05 **Big Brother's Bit on the Psych**. Ryan Clark, Ian Lee and Luisa Zissman analyse the housemates' behaviour as they enter their last week, with input from psychologists and body-language experts. Last in the series.

12.00 **SuperCasino**. 3.10 **Big Brother**. (R) 4.00 **House Doctor**. (R) 4.25 **Make It Big**. (R) 5.15 **Angels of Jarm**. (R) 5.40 **Roary the Racing Car**. (R)

DIGITAL

7.00 **Doctor Who: The Day of the Doctor**. 8.20 **Top Gear**. 9.05 **Russell Howard's Good News**. 9.35 **Film: Old School**. (2003) 11.05 **Family Guy**. 2.00 **People Just Do Nothing**. 3.00 **Sex Beast**. 3.30 **Russell Howard's Good News**. 4.00 **Close**

BBC Four

7.00 **Sounds of the 70s** 2 Rock - The Boys Are Back in Town. 7.30 **Eisteddfod 2014** 8.00 **Human Planet**. 9.00 **Inspector Montalbano**. 12.00 **Robert Plant: By Myself**. 1.00 **Guillermo del Toro**. 2.00 **Human Planet**. 3.00 **Pop! The Science of Bubble**. 4.00 **Close**

ITV2

11.35 **Take Me Out** 12.45 **Film: Small Soldiers**. (1998) 2.55 **Film: Scooby-Doo**. (2002) 4.40 **You've Been Framed**. 5.40 **You've Been Framed Extreme**. 6.45 **Film: Back to the Future**. 7.00 **It's a Holiday**. (2006) 11.45 **Film: Billy Madison**. (1995) 1.35 **The Magaluf Weekend**. 2.25 **Lif's Funniest Moments**. 2.50 **Teleshopping**. 3.00 **ITV2 Nightscreeen**

ITV4

11.30 **The Cycle Show** 12.30 **Alia Smith and Jones**. 1.40 **British Touring Car Championship**. 9.15 **British Superbike Championship**. 11.30 **Storage Wars**. 5.15 **Live Pre-Festival Football**. 7.00 **Tottenham Hotspur v Schalke 04** (kick-off 5.30pm). 7.30 **Film: Thunderball**. (1965) 10.10 **Film: Ocean's Eleven**. (2001) 12.30 **Horblower**. 2.35 **World of Sport**. 3.00 **ITV First**. 2.50 **ITV4 Nightscreeen**. 3.00 **Teleshopping**. 3.30 **The Show** 4.30 **Teleshopping**

ITV

11.30 **The Railway Children** 2.50 **A Touch of Frost**. 7.00 **Lewis**. 9.00 **Foyles War**. 11.00 **Bomb Girls**. 12.00 **A Touch of Frost**. 1.00 **ITV1**. 2.30 **Nightscreeen**. 2.30 **Teleshopping**

ITV3

11.30 **The Cycle Show** 12.30 **Alia Smith and Jones**. 1.40 **British Touring Car Championship**. 9.15 **British Superbike Championship**. 11.30 **Storage Wars**. 5.15 **Live Pre-Festival Football**. 7.00 **Tottenham Hotspur v Schalke 04** (kick-off 5.30pm). 7.30 **Film: Thunderball**. (1965) 10.10 **Film: Ocean's Eleven**. (2001) 12.30 **Horblower**. 2.35 **World of Sport**. 3.00 **ITV First**. 2.50 **ITV4 Nightscreeen**. 3.00 **Teleshopping**. 3.30 **The Show** 4.30 **Teleshopping**

F4

11.30 **Marvel's Agents of SHIELD** 12.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. 1.30 **How I Met Your Mother**. 2.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. 3.30 **Melissa & Joey**. 4.30 **Film: Lemon Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events**. (2004) 6.35 **Brooklyn Nine-Nine**. 7.00 **Twilight**. (2008) 10.30 **The 100**. 11.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. 12.30 **Virtually Famous**. 1.20 **How I Met Your Mother**. 2.30 **Bob's Burgers**. 3.00 **Rules of Engagement**. 3.25 **The Mindy Project**. 4.15 **Desperate Housewives**

Film4

11.00 **On the Fiddle**. (1961) 1.00 **New in Town**. (2009) 2.50 **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**. 3.00 **Rod Rickles Rules**. (2011) 4.45 **August Rush**. (2007) 7.00 **The Day the Earth Stood Still**. (2008) 9.00 **Devil**. (2010) 10.35 **Underworld: Rise of the Lycans**. (2009) 12.20 **Punch-Drunk Love**. (2003) 2.10 **Snake in the Eagle's Shadow**. (1978)

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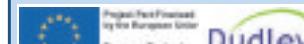
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CHOICE

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Sunday Morning Live. 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 12.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News. 1.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.00 Live Cycling. The RideLondon-Surrey Classic. 6.35 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the experts return to Hampton Court Castle in Herefordshire, where items up for valuation include a silver dish given to former prime minister Neville Chamberlain, a set of drinking urns shaped as Herefordshire bulls, and a collection of SAS medals. (R)

8.00 **Countryfile: Summer Special.** Summer special in which the team celebrates the best in rural Britain at the Cotswoold County Show in Cirencester. Ellie Harrison tries her hand at archery, Adam Henson invites city dwellers for a taste of life on the farm and Matt Baker discovers how 100 years ago the showground hosted to soldiers rather than summer revellers. John Craven cooks up a seasonal feast with 2011 Celebrity MasterChef winner Phil Vickery, poet Ian McMillan and cartoonist Tony Husband capture an artistic view of the day and John Hammond explains the science of the summer weather.

9.00 **The Village.** New series. The drama set in a Peak District village moves into the 1920s. John is now a dairy farmer but is struggling with his rent, so son Bert takes to the boxing ring.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News.

10.25 MOTD: Community Shield Highlights. Jason Mohammad introduces action from the Community Shield at Wembley Stadium, as Arsenal and Manchester City clashed for the first silverware of the season.

11.10 **Live at the Apollo.** Alan Carr hosts the stand-up show at London's Hammersmith Apollo, introducing routines by comedians Andi Osho and Patrick Kielty. (R)

11.40 **Film: Annapolis.** (2006) A trainee cadet at a naval academy clashes with a senior officer and ends up having to fight him in a boxing match. Drama, starring James Franco and Donnie Wahlberg.

1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.20 BBC News.

Maxine Peake

The Village (BBC1, 9pm)

The epic drama charting the life and times of Peak District villagers moves into the 1920s, where the arrival of the jazz age has radically changed old perceptions of love, sex and politics. Life is good for the Ailinghams in the big house, who are throwing a weekend party, and as part of their entertainment Bert takes part in a race - only to be accused of cheating. His father John is now a dairy farmer, but is struggling to pay the rent on his barn. However, Bert comes up with a money-making plan when boxer Ghana Jones, who has been barred from fighting professionally because of the colour of his skin, offers all-comers a chance to take him on. Tom Varey joins the cast as the 21-year-old Bert, with Maxine Peake and John Simm.

1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.20 BBC News.

BBC2

ITV

6.00 **Countryfile.** (R) 7.00 Alan Titchmarsh's Garden Secrets. (R) 8.00 Gardeners' World. (R) 8.30 The Beechgrove Garden. 9.00 The Football League Show. (R) 10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.50 Rick Stein's India. (R) 12.50 Film: Firecreak. (1968) Western, starring James Stewart. 2.30 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League. Castleford Tigers v Widnes Vikings (kick-off 3.00pm). 5.00 Songs of Praise. 5.35 Fog It! (R)

6.00 **Celebrity Antiques Road Trip.** Janice Long takes on her Radio 2 colleague Ken Bruce as they embark on a road trip around Oxfordshire with experts Christina Trevien and Paul Laidlow, searching for antiques that will sell at auction for a profit. Along the way, Ken indulges his passion for sapphires. (R)

7.00 **Tropic of Capricorn.** Simon Reeve continues his quest to trace the southern tropic, travelling from South Africa to Madagascar. In Zimbabwe, the presenter comes face to face with the harsh realities of the refugee crisis, and witnesses a unique method of land-use disposal in Mozambique. Heading to the Madagascan islands, he discovers an unusual local delicacy, and visits a town where the poor make a living by digging for sapphires. (R)

8.00 **Dragons' Den.** Business ideas pitched include a product that uses nano-suction technology, gourmet marshmallow treats, an alarmed LED walking stick and a cycling brand for the larger figure.

9.00 **James May's Cars of the People.** New series. The Top Gear presenter examines the social significance of cars in the 20th century, beginning by looking at how dictators kick-started the mobilisation of the masses.

10.00 **Legacy.** A trainee MI6 agent sets out to recruit a Soviet diplomat, but finds evidence of a KGB plot to mount an attack within the UK. Cold War thriller set in 1974, starring Charlie Cox. (R)

11.30 **Film: The Trench.** (1998) British soldiers in the trenches begin to question their leaders' honesty in the build-up to the Battle of the Somme. First World War drama, starring Daniel Craig and Paul Nicholls.

1.05 **Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R) 2.00 Holby City. (R) 3.00 This is BBC Two.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 **How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.35 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.00 Caterham Motorport. 7.30 London Triathlon. 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.25 The Simpsons. (R) 2.55 The Simpsons. (R) 3.25 Film: Step Up. (2010) Dance drama sequel, starring Rick Malambri. 5.35 Deal or No Deal. 6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Tom's Fantastic Floating Home.** Inventor Tom Lawton works tirelessly to complete his floating home before taking it for a maiden voyage down the river. This time he turns his creative imagination to rest and relaxation by reimagining the sofa as a stargazing seating area, bringing light below deck with a fibre-optic solar jellyfish, and making an inflatable bed out of tennis balls. Last in the series.

8.00 **The Zoo.** New series. The documentary follows staff at London Zoo and Whipsnade as they breed critically endangered animals. This edition charts the journey of three Sumatran tiger cubs.

9.00 **The Great War: The People's Story.** New series. Stars including Daniel May, Matthew McNulty and MyAnna Buring bring to life the original diaries, letters and memoirs of men and women caught up in the First World War. 10.00 **ITV News: Weather.**

10.15 **Kids with Cameras: Diary of a Children's Ward.** Documentary in which more than 100 youngsters are each given cameras to record their experiences as patients at Newcastle's Great North Children's Hospital. (R)

11.15 **Premiership Rugby 7s Series.** Highlights of nights from the Stoop, where the qualifiers from the group stage competed in two pools of four, with the two teams that topped the tables competing in the final.

12.15 **ITV Store.** 2.15 Motorsport UK. 3.10 British Superbike Championship Highlights. 4.05 Britain's Best Bakery. (R) 4.55 ITV Newsnight. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 **Milkshake!** Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) 6.25 Bubble Guppies. (R) 6.35 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.50 Chloe's Closet. (R) 7.00 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.10 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 7.25 Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.35 City of Friends. (R) 7.50 Little Princess. (R) 8.00 The Adventures of Bottie Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.15 Oily the Little White Van. (R) 8.20 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 8.35 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 8.40 Rupert Bear. (R) 8.55 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Jelly Jamm. (R) 9.30 LazyTown. (R) 10.00 Access. (R) 10.15 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.10 Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol. (1987) 2.55 Film: Baby Boom. (1987) Comedy, starring Diane Keaton. 5.05 Film: The Water Baby: Legend of the Deep. (2007) Adventure, starring Alex Etel.

7.00 **Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day four of the Test at Old Trafford as the five-match series continued.

7.55 **News Weekend.**

8.00 **Caught with Their Fingers in the Till.** Documentary exploring three instances of thieving employees who brought the companies they worked for to their knees. Bookkeeper Janet saddled a trusting community with over £1 million of debt by claiming false grants while stealing from the local parish council, while Kirsty spent years earning the trust of her employer while quietly pocketing around £300,000 which she spent on online shopping and her dream wedding. Serial fraudster Stephen splashed out on home improvements and fed his gambling habit, leading to his boss being forced to shut down the business and dismiss 50 staff.

9.00 **Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights.

10.00 **Film: Killers.** (2010) A spy puts his life of espionage behind him and settles into domestic bliss, until a contract is placed on his life. Action comedy, with Ashton Kutcher and Katherine Heigl.

12.00 **Shoplifters and Proud.** (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 **World's Scariest Drivers.** (R) 4.00 **House Doctor.** (R) 4.25 Make It Big. 5.15 **Angels of Jarm.** (R) 5.40 **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 **Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D** 7.10 **Film: Raiders of the Lost Ark** (1981) 9.00 **Our World War 10.00 Family Guy** 10.45 **Siblings 11.15 Cuckoo 11.45 American Dad! 12.30 Sexy Beasts 1.00 Siblings 1.30 Cuckoo 2.00 Russell Howard's Good News 2.30 *Impractical Jokers* 3.00 **ITV2****

7.00 **The Sunday Prom:** John Tavener Premieres 8.25 **Secret Knowledge: Bosver Castle with Lucy Worsley** 9.00 **Great Poets in Their Own Words 10.00 Edinburgh Extra** 11.00 **The Sky at Night 11.30 Horizon** 40 Years on the Moon 12.30 **Imagine** - Rod Stewart: Can't Stop Me Now 1.55 Rod Stewart at the BBC 2.55 **Sings the Great American Songbook 3.55 Close**

7.00 **ITV3**

1.00 **Inspector Morse 3.25 Film: Holiday on the Buses** (1973) 5.05 **What You've Been Framed!** Kids Framed! 3.55 You've Been Framed! 4.45 Film: *Scary-Doc 2: Monsters Unleashed* (2004) 6.50 **Film: Back to the Future Part II** (1989) 9.00 **Film: Shaun of the Dead** (2004) 11.00 **Film: State of Play** (2009) 1.25 **The Big Reunion** 2.00 **2.00 You've Been Framed!** 2.45 Teleshopping 3.45 **Nightshift**

7.00 **ITV4**

11.25 **The Car Chasers** 12.30 **Film: The Secret War of Harry Figg** (1967) 2.45 **Film: Battle of the Bulge** (1965) 6.00 **Storage Wars** 8.00 **Premiership Rugby 7s Series** 9.00 **Film: Driven to Kill** (2009) 11.00 **Hell on Wheels** 11.55 **Alis Smith and Jones** 1.00 **River Monsters 2.05 Richard Bacon's Beer and Pizza Club** 2.40 **Movies Now**

7.00 **ITV5**

12.35 **America's Got Talent 3.25** 2010 You've Been Framed! 3.55 You've Been Framed! 4.45 Film: *Scary-Doc 2: Monsters Unleashed* (2004) 6.50 **Film: Back to the Future Part II** (1989) 9.00 **Film: Shaun of the Dead** (2004) 11.00 **Film: The Big Reunion** 2.00 **2.00 You've Been Framed!** 2.45 Teleshopping 3.45 **Nightshift**

7.00 **ITV6**

1.00 **Inspector Morse 3.25 Film: Holiday on the Buses** (1973) 5.05 **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes 6.20 Film: Columbo: Faded in to Murder** (1976) 6.00 **Film: The Mindy Project 3.30 New Girl 4.00 The Big Bang Theory 5.00 The 100 6.00 Rude(ish) Tube 6.55 **Film: The Wedding Planner** (2001) 9.00 **Film: Made in Chelsea NYC** 10.00 **Almost Royal 10.35** 2.00 **Film: The Wedding Planner** (2001) 6.00 **Film: The Big Bang Theory 11.35 Virtually Famous 12.25 Rules of Engagement****

7.00 **Film: Engagement 2.00 Ben Earl: Trick Artist 2.20 The Cleveland Show 3.20 Hollywoods**

7.00 **Film 4**

11.00 **Geordie (1955) 1.00 The Italian Job** (1969) 3.00 **Aliens in the Attic** (2009) 4.45 **King Solomon's Mines** (1935) 6.40 **Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief** (2010) 9.00 **Colombiana** (2011) 11.05 **Memento** (2000) 1.20 **Away We Go** (2009) 3.15 **Close**

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MONDAY

A Nanny's Secret, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A burglary at the home of a wealthy family results in a death. The nanny fears her troubled brother may be the culprit, but keeps her suspicions from her employers, mounting her own secret investigation to find out who was responsible. Thriller, starring Hayley Duff. (2009)

TUESDAY

A Surrogate's Terror, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A college student agrees to be a surrogate mother for a wealthy couple in return for her tuition fees being paid, only for the prospective parents to die in a car crash. She faces an uncertain future as the grandmother of her unborn child gets custody of it and assumes control over every aspect of her life. Drama, starring Cassie Steele and Mimi Kuzyk. (2014)

WEDNESDAY

Sharpay's Fabulous Adventure, BBC2, 12pm

A teenage prima donna is convinced her dreams of fame have come true when she meets a Broadway casting director. She heads for New York expecting to see her name in lights, only to find it is her dog that is going to be a star. Comedy, with Ashley Tisdale. (2011)



Dog Day Afternoon, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

THURSDAY

Biker Boyz, BBC1, 11.35pm

The son of a mechanic killed in a crash is determined to honour his father's memory by becoming a champion motorcycle racer. However, the leader of the underground motorcycle club where his father worked refused to let him join. Outraged, the young biker assembles his own team and vows to avenge the insult, proving once and for all who the fastest rider really is. Action drama, starring Laurence Fishburne, Derek Luke, Orlando Jones and Lisa Bonet. (2003)

FRIDAY

Dog Day Afternoon, ITV, 10.40pm

A hapless bank robber sees his simple heist turn into a hostage situation and a media circus. Sidney Lumet's fact-based drama, starring Al Pacino. (1975)

The English Patient, BBC2, 11.05pm

The enigmatic, badly burned survivor of a Second World War plane crash is tended by a French-Canadian nurse in a derelict Italian monastery. He tells her the story of his passionate love affair with a married Englishwoman. Oscar-winning romantic drama, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas. (1996)

Looking back at times of capital punishment

Over the years, British movies with a Stranger and Let Him Have It have addressed the often disturbing subject of innocent and guilty people sentenced to death because of their connection with murder.

Now, half a century since Peter Allen and Gwyneth Evans became the last two men to be hanged in Britain, this documentary looks back on people sentenced to death in the UK. Fourteen years before Allen and Evans were executed, Londoner Timothy Evans of Notting Hill was sentenced to death for the murder of his wife Beryl and baby daughter Geraldine. Maureen Westlake, Timothy's sister, is still tortured by the pain of injustice to this day.

For the first time, she speaks about the tragedy of her innocent brother going to the gallows for another man's heinous crime. Serial killer John Christie lived in the basement flat of the Evans' home at 10 Rillington Place. Timothy was in a highly emotional state following the deaths of his

wife and daughter. An impressionable man, he would admit to anything, and made a false statement admitting to both murders after being coerced by the police.

However, after being charged with murder, Timothy retracted his confession and protested his innocence. Maureen Evans saw him in prison with his sister Eileen, recalls the meeting: "And I kept crying. And he said to Eileen 'What does she keep crying for?' and she said 'You know what she's crying [about] Tim, Beryl and the baby' and he said 'I didn't do it, Eileen' He said 'Christie did it.' And the last time I saw him, he did look like a 10-year-old. His face was all pale. Waved and he said, 'cheerio'."

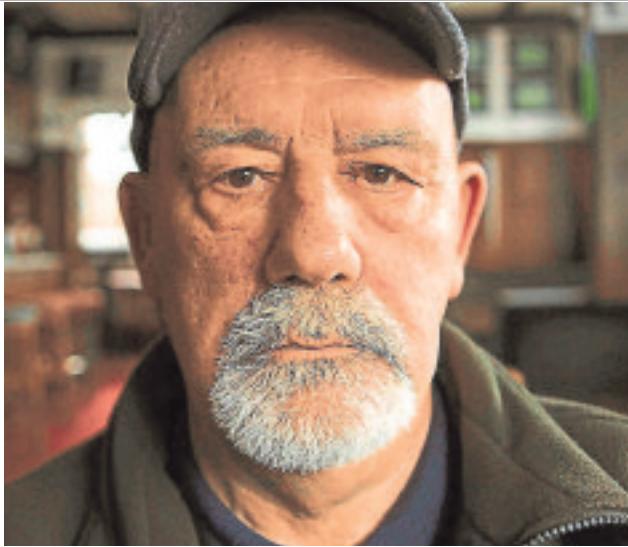
Timothy was eventually granted a Royal Pardon in 1966, 16 years after being executed. Christie's crimes had been uncovered, but Timothy's conviction for murdering his daughter was not expunged, a matter which still plagues Maureen: "I feel that I have gone as far as I can," she explains. "But I think I am going to go to my grave still

thinking that this Government have still not cleared him properly. And I still say it's the Government that killed that murdered Tim. Not killed him. Murdered him."

The makers of Executed visit prisons where death sentences were carried out until its abolition. Viewers also get a close look at how the condemned would have spent their last days, and the techniques and procedures used by the executioners.

This film also examines the case of 19-year old Derek Bentley. In 1953, he was hanged for the murder of a policeman, despite the fact he did not fire the fatal shot and had a mental age of 11. It was claimed he had uttered the words 'Let him have it' to incite his partner in crime Christopher Craig to shoot.

The show also features a profile of Ruth Ellis, the 28-year-old who was executed in 1955 for the shooting of her lover David Blakely. She became the last woman to be hanged in Britain, and her story was adapted for acclaimed 1985 movie Death with a Stranger.



Dave Rodham features in Executed, Tuesday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Kate Adie's Women of World War One

BBC2, 9pm

As a distinguished war reporter, Kate Adie knows a thing or two about being on the frontline. But in this documentary, part of the BBC's ongoing season marking the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, she's more interested in the women left on the Home Front. She discovers that for many of them, it was a chance to prove they could take on 'men's' jobs, from making shells and driving trams to forming a police force, operating on male patients and playing football in front of tens of thousands of spectators. But while some women experienced their first taste of freedom, it was also a time of bereavement and uncertainty. Adie asks whether the advances of the war continued after 1918, or if peacetime saw women banished back to the kitchen.

TUESDAY

Love Your Garden

ITV, 8pm

The team comes to the aid of Luke Simpson, who lost his leg in an explosion on his last tour of duty in Afghanistan. While rebuilding his life and health with the support of his wife Jackie, the war hero has struggled to make progress on the garden of his dreams. As Alan and the crew work their magic,

Frances Tophill reveals the key design elements for a cottage-style plot, Katie Rushworth demonstrates how to make the most out of cut flowers and David Domoney provides hints and tips on maintaining the perfect lawn. Last in the series.

In the Club

BBC1, 9pm

With Rick on the run from the police, Diane struggles to accept the reality of what he has done. She turns to Roanna, the only person she feels she can trust, for some much-needed support - but it looks like the stress of the situation may have brought on her labour as she starts to experience pains that feel much more than Braxton Hicks. Jasmin and Dev have a houseguest, Diane's husband Rick, but when the police turn up the newlyweds are shocked to find out what's really going on. Will they cover for him? Teaching assistant Kim is also feeling the pressure in the aftermath of Rosie's dad's accident. When social services get involved her sense of responsibility is tested as she tries to protect the schoolgirl and her baby. Kay Mellor's drama, starring Jill Halfpenny, Will Mellor and Hermione Norris.

WEDNESDAY

Secrets from the Clink

ITV, 9pm

Part two of two. Strictly Come Dancing judge Len Goodman explores the next chapter in the story of his great-great-grandfather, finding out how years of hard labour took their toll. Actress Michelle

Collins is horrified to discover the Dickensian conditions one of her forebears experienced in a debtors' prison after the collapse of his business in tough economic times. Journalist Daisy McAndrew follows the tale of an ancestor who dodged the hangman's noose and was transported to Australia, where her fortunes changed.

THURSDAY

Location, Location, Location

Channel 4, 8pm

New series. Kristie Allsopp and Phil Spencer guide prospective

buyers through the complex world of property viewings and agents. They begin in the popular commuter county of Kent, where homes are snapped up quickly due to their proximity to London. Robin and Gemma have recently returned to the UK after three years in Singapore and want a family home to bring up their baby, while in Tunbridge Wells, Gemma and Barney are looking to buy their first place together in a very competitive market.

FRIDAY

Boomers

BBC1, 9pm

New series. Comedy following the ups and downs of three newly retired couples living in the Norfolk resort of Thurne. The friends prepare for the funeral of old friend Jean, although Alan seems more interested that her ex-husband, his old friend Mick, is flying over from Spain for the service. John is wary of the visitor, convinced he has had a thing for his wife Maureen ever since a notorious holiday in Weymouth many moons ago. Meanwhile, Joyce is preoccupied with the thought of her daughter-in-law giving birth any day now. Philip Jackson, Alison Steadman, Russ Abbot, Stephanie Beacham, Paula Wilcox and James Smith star, with a guest appearance by Nigel Planer.

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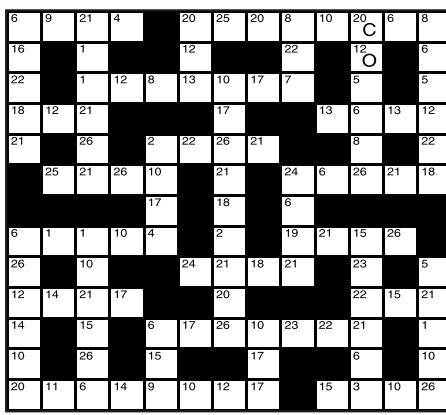
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

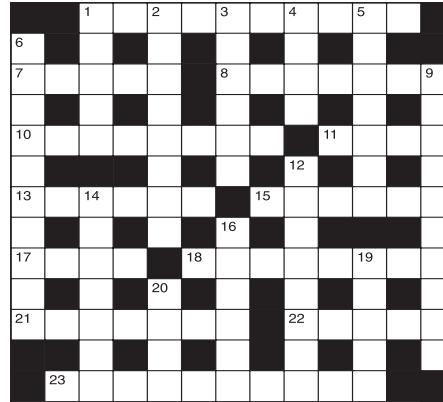
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Allowed the minutes to pass without taking any action (6,4)
2. This will turn a strip of wood to the East (5)
3. Headless fish taking the wrong course (6)
4. In fact, a lengthy account (4)
5. USA term comes to fruition in a different way (7)
6. Finish the game - an evenly contested affair (5,5)
7. Able to move to Alabama port (6)
15. Slave girl returning to Virginia (6)
17. A complete revolution will produce an emotional shock (4)
18. Meet a hundred on the promenade (8)
21. Getting news of the trial (7)
22. "Tempest" character changing to one in "Lear" adaptation (5)
23. Pledges oneself to carry out a grave act? (10)

Down

1 & 20Dn. It was reed tangled at the river's brink (5-4)
8. Tidy sale arranged in a controlled way (8)
10. Real mix-up before Edward said what happened (7)
12. Going on foot or by car past the street (8)
13. It's nearly a swindle for one who's married in Germany (4)
14. Slave girl returning to Virginia (6)
16. Only partially support a member of the football team (4-4)
18. Meet a hundred on the promenade (8)
20. Getting news of the trial (7)
21. "Tempest" character changing to one in "Lear" adaptation (5)
22. Doesn't include part of the kingdom, it seems (5)
23. See 1 Down



Quick Clues:

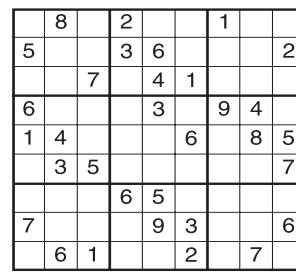
Across

1. Help (10)
7. Taut (5)
8. Red wine (7)
10. Recounted (8)
14. One coming to terms, strikes before this! (7)
16. Tried to find a particular variety, one hears (6)
19. Doesn't include part of the kingdom, it seems (5)
20. See 1 Down

Down

1. Drilling tool (5)
2. Placed (8)
3. Confidential (6)
4. Parched (4)
5. Terse (7)
6. Parsimony (10)
9. Wavering (10)
12. Patronage (8)
14. Assert (7)
16. Decorated (6)
19. Mad (5)
20. Species (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >
3 2 7 1 8 6 4 5 9
6 8 1 9 4 5 7 3 2
5 9 4 3 7 2 1 6 8
8 1 3 6 5 4 2 9 7
9 6 2 8 1 7 3 4 5
7 4 5 2 9 3 6 8 1
4 5 8 7 3 1 9 2 6
1 3 6 5 2 9 8 7 4
2 7 9 4 6 8 5 1 3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Capital; 7 Gains; 9 Let; 10 Meandered; 12 Jumble-sale; 15 Dumb blondes; 16 Bell-tents; 19 Arm; 21 Clown; 22 Compose; Down: 1 Camel; 2 Dumb; 3 Jester; 4 Pack-snake; 5 Anger; 8 Intern; 11 Furbelow; 13 Bullet; 14 Cure-all; 16 Crash; 18 Toot; 20 Go. QUICK - Across: 6 Barrier; 7 Annoy; 9 Try; 10 Interests; 12 Reparations; 15 Short-handed; 17 Community; 19 Way; 21 Agent; 22 Passive. Down: 1 Parry; 2 Dry; 3 Keen; 4 Undesired; 5 Content; 8 Retain; 11 Detriment; 13 At hand; 14 Through; 16 Waive; 18 Tray; 20 Ask.

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THE GALLERY

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Four-bedrooms spread across three storeys



ATTRACTIVE and well presented, 103 Attingham Drive, Sovereign Heights, Dudley, is a spacious four-bedroomed, three-storey home for sale through Roden Boydell at £244,950.

With double glazing and gas central heating, it has a reception hall with staircase off, guest cloakroom, first floor through lounge with an attractive fireplace. From there are French doors leading to a balcony, spacious dining room with French doors to garden, kitchen with modern white units, a double oven with gas hob, fitted extractor hood and fridge freezer.

There are a utility, study, four bedrooms (two with en suites and all with fitted wardrobes), bathroom, garage and gardens.

There is a driveway, carport and detached garage. The rear garden has a patio and lawn.

For further information contact Roden Boydell on 01902 881188 or visit www.rodenboydell.com



This character home has five bedrooms

SUBSTANTIAL five bedroomeed detached home, Meadowcroft, 69 Stream Road, King'swinford, has a delightful setting.

Having mature, generous gardens, it is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £465,000. With a shared drive, this gas central heated home has an entrance porch, entrance hall with feature stairs, guest cloakroom, lounge, dining room with brick fireplace, sitting room with feature fireplace and wooden floor, an L-shaped breakfast room with steps to cellar, kitchen, stainless steel range cooker, a side lobby, WC, passageway linked to annexe, galleried landing, five bedrooms (one en suite) and house bathroom. Contact Lee Shaw Partnership on 01384 287622 or visit www.leeshaw.com



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74 High Street, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 3AW



Rosemoor Drive, Amblecote, DY5 - O/O £175,000

Positioned towards the head the cul-de-sac on this popular road off Brompton Drive, this successfully extended, modern, three bedroom semi-detached house is brilliantly presented and is a must view for any family. The nearby amenities include Peters Hill Primary School, Sainsbury's and a doctors surgery and accommodation comprises an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, modern kitchen, conservatory, downstairs WC, three bedrooms, contemporary en-suite shower room and family bathroom with a flat and sunny rear garden, block paved driveway and garage. EPC: C



Merryfield Road, Dudley, DY1 - £140,000

Located on the popular Russells Hall Estate, this well presented and extended semi-detached home is great for many amenities and has to be viewed to be fully appreciated. Internal accommodation comprises an entrance porch, spacious lounge, good sized kitchen/diner, utility room, conservatory, three double bedrooms, family bathroom, en-suite and central heating and double glazing.

Outside, there is generous block paved driveway and garage to the front and a rear garden with tiered decking. EPC: D



Newtown, Brockmoor, Brierley Hill, DY5 - £90,000

AVAILABLE WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN, this well presented, modern mid-terrace would be a perfect first home or buy-to-let investment and benefits from uPVC double glazing throughout. Accommodation comprises a modern lounge, a spacious and modern kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and pleasant, flat rear garden as well as a gravel covered front driveway. EPC: D

West Hill Court, Hagley Road, DY8 - £595 pcm



NEW
Impressive ground floor apartment
Two bedrooms
Master en-suite and bathroom
Open plan lounge and kitchen
Central heating & double glazing
Communal gardens
Allocated parking space



Madison Avenue, Brierley Hill, DY5 - £575 pcm

Modern first floor apartment
Two bedrooms
Master en-suite and bathroom
Spacious lounge/diner
Fitted kitchen with appliances
Central heating & double glazing
Allocated parking space



Harley Grange, Dixons Green Road, Dudley, DY2 - £410 pcm

NEW
Spacious top floor apartment
One double bedroom
Fitted kitchen with cooker
Bathroom with shower over bath
Central heating & double glazing
Communal gardens
Allocated parking space

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STOURBRIDGE

PERRINS LANE
FOR SALE £210,000
Large Well Presented Traditional Detached House; Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Large Double Glazed Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Separate Double Shower, Gas Central Heating, Well laid out Gardens, Off Road Parking



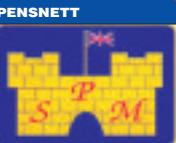
WALL HEATH

FOUNDRY ROAD
FOR SALE £194,950
Beautifully presented semi detached property. Comprising of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking.



BRIERLEY HILL

WILLIAM STREET
FOR SALE £97,500
End Terrace Property in Good Internal Decorative Order. Comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Utility, Two Double Glazed, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden.



PENSNETT

SWAN STREET
FOR SALE £40,000 ONO
Plot of land for sale with full planning permission for a three bedroom detached building. For more information contact Select Property Management Limited on 01384 277701. Application number P13/0225



WORDSLEY

NEW



DUDLEY

NEW



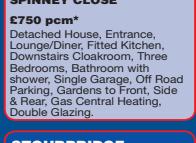
WALL HEATH

NEW



NETHERTON

NEW



SPINNEY CLOSE

£750 pcm*
Detached House, Entrance, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front, Side & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.



ATTINGHAM DRIVE

£350 pcm*
First Floor Studio Apartment, Communal Entrance, Open Plan Kitchen, Lounge/Dining/Bedroom Area, Shower Room, Car Port, Communal Grounds, Double Glazing, Electric Heating



BLAZE PARK

£695 pcm*
Mid Terrace Property, Large Lounge, Dining Room, Good Size Kitchen, Utility, Three Bedrooms, En Suite, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Garden, Off Road Parking



BUSH ROAD

£110 per week*
First Floor Maisonette, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished



STOURBRIDGE

NEW



KINGSWINFORD

NEW



KINGSWINFORD

NEW



AMBLESOTE

NEW



WILDACRES

£660 pcm*
Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished



MANCROFT CLOSE

£775 pcm*
Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Large Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Glass Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, En Suite, Shower, Off Road Parking, Single Garage, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.



GREENCROFT

£575 pcm*
Bungalow, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Parking for 2 cars, Unfurnished



KING WILLIAM STREET

£380 pcm*
SHARED HOUSE, Ground Floor: Communal Kitchen and Bathroom with shower, Two Bedrooms, First Floor: Two Bed, Shower, Office, Communal Toilet, Part Furnished, Gas Central Heating, Communal Gardens, Rent to include utility bills.



KINGSWINFORD

NEW



BRIERLEY HILL

NEW



TIVIDALE

NEW



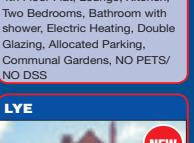
ASHTREE ROAD

£395 pcm*
Ground Floor Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Allocated Parking, Front & Side Garden, Gas Central Heating, DSS Considered



GRANTLEY CRESCENT

£825 pcm*
Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Area, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished



THE BREEZE

£550 pcm*
4th Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking, Communal Gardens, NO PETS/NO DSS



DADFORD VIEW

£450 pcm*
Cluster Style Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Allocated Parking, Front & Side Garden, Gas Central Heating, DSS Considered



ASHTREE ROAD

£395 pcm*
Ground Floor Maisonette, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Communal Grounds, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking



SWINDON

NEW



LYE

NEW



PENSNETT

NEW



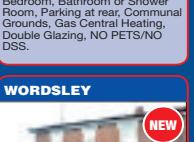
BRIERLEY HILL

NEW



WORDSEY

NEW



WORDSEY

NEW



TIVIDALE

NEW



KINGSWINFORD

NEW



GUARDIANS WALK

£740 pcm*
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Three Bedrooms, En Suite, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Single Garage, Off Road Parking



HIGH STREET

£475 pcm*
First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished



TIVIDALE STREET

£545 pcm*
Mid Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking



KINGSWINFORD

NEW

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Improved family house overlooks Warley Woods



AN IMPROVED five-double-bedded semi-detached property in Lightwoods Hill, Bearwood, overlooks Warley Woods.

Having period features, it is for sale through Robert Oulsnam, at £369,950 with no chain. It has a bay-fronted reception room with ornate feature fireplace, a dining kitchen with light wood units and floor tiling, ground floor WC, utility, five double bedrooms, a bathroom and front and rear gardens.

For further information contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 4511331 or visit the website at www.oulsnam.net

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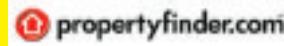
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**Bilston
Temple Street**




NEW INSTRUCTION

Located within walking distance to Bilston town centre, local transport links and local shops this ground floor maisonette offers two good size bedrooms, lounge, separate kitchen, shower room, good sized garden to the rear and must be seen to be appreciated.

£64,950

**OAKHAM
Dingle Close**




NEW INSTRUCTION

Three bedroom semi-detached house situated in the sought after Oakham area. Briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, rear garden, garage and driveway. No upward chain!

£134,950

**Tipton
Wood Street**




NEW INSTRUCTION

An amazingly presented beautiful family home located within walking distance to local shops and good transport links with Tipton train station within walking distance. This property really is a must view! Briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge/dining room, modern fitted kitchen, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway to the front.

£140,000

**Dudley
Hawthorne Road**




NEW INSTRUCTION

Three good size bedrooms! No upward chain! Briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, downstairs bathroom, rear garden with decking area and off road parking to the front.

£87,000

**DUDLEY
Ripley Grove**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A beautifully presented two bedroom detached coach house benefitting from a garage and private rear garden. Also comprising entrance hall, open plan lounge/kitchen, white bathroom suite. Driveway to the front of the property. EPC Ordered

£114,950

**Tipton
Wednesbury Oak Road**




NEW INSTRUCTION

• No upward chain • Detached garage • This three bedroom property offers spacious accommodation and briefly comprises, porch, reception hall, downstairs wc, lounge, kitchen/dining room, laundry room, family bathroom, rear garden, detached garage & driveway.

£149,950

**Oakham
New Rowley Road**




NEW INSTRUCTION

This is a unique detached dormer bungalow with never ending accommodation which briefly comprises of lounge, sitting room, conservatory, kitchen, a lean to housing utility items, basement/garden room with extra storage area, bathroom to ground floor, a shower room to the first floor, two double bedrooms, driveway and a beautiful staggered garden with far reaching views. It really is a wow property and must be viewed.

£200,000

**Coseley
Wagstaffe Close**




NEW INSTRUCTION

Two bedroom first floor flat briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, two good size bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden with two brick built storage cupboards. No upward chain.

£64,950

**Netherton
Marlow Close**

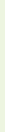



NEW PRICE

Beautifully presented and having a LARGE conservatory this three bedroom semi detached house really is a must view! Briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, modern fitted kitchen leading to a conservatory, utility, downstairs wc/shower room, family bathroom, rear garden, garage and off road parking. No upward chain!

149,999

**TIPTON
Gordon Drive**

NEW PRICE

Situated on a generous corner plot this three bedroom detached house really is a must view. Briefly comprising entrance hall, downstairs wc, lounge, kitchen/dining room, family bathroom to the first floor. Outside there are gardens to the front, side and rear a brick built storage cupboard, garage and driveway. No upward chain.

£140,000 o/o

**Bilston
Whitegates Road**




NEW PRICE

Realistically priced!! This three bedroom detached really is a must view!! Briefly comprising lounge/dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, bathroom with a separate wc, rear garden, garage and a driveway. EPC = G

£135,000

**Dudley
Bradfield Way**




NEW PRICE

• SHOW HOME STANDARD • A recently constructed two bedroom semi detached house. This property offers generous accommodation which includes reception hallway, guest WC, fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, lounge, two DOUBLE bedrooms and bathroom on the first floor. Driveway to fore, rear garden having a paved patio area & garden shed. Gas central heating and Upvc double glazing. Viewing is highly recommended!

£119,950

**DUDLEY
Dibdale Road West**



Located on the popular "Milking Bank" estate this beautiful modern detached coach-house with accommodation briefly comprising of hallway, lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, white bathroom suite, bedroom with fitted wardrobes, garage, driveway and private rear garden. No upward chain

£99,950

**TIPTON
Henlow Close**



An exceptionally well presented, EXTENDED three bedroom semi detached house. Briefly comprising entrance hall, modern fitted kitchen, extended lounge/dining room, 'L' shaped bathroom, integral garage, rear garden and a driveway to the front of the property. EPC - D

£144,950

**DUDLEY
Ashenhurst Road**



Three bedroom semi-detached house briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway to the front. No upward chain!

114,950

**ROWLEY REGIS
Springfield Lane**



Sold with a tenant in situ, this vendor is looking a QUICK SALE! Briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge/dining room, modern fitted kitchen, family bathroom and off road parking to the rear of the property.

£87,000

**TIVIDALE
Elizabeth Mews**



Beautifully presented and realistically priced this two bedroom property with a garage really is a must view! Briefly comprising modern fitted kitchen, lounge/dining room, family bathroom and front and rear gardens.

£99,950

**DUDLEY
Buffery Road**



A beautifully presented and particularly spacious three bedroom detached property briefly comprising of lounge, kitchen/dining room, lean to with a downstairs wc, family bathroom, rear garden, garage and driveway. NO UPWARD CHAIN! Conveniently located for Dudley town centre. Transport links are provided on the Birmingham New Road, in one direction towards Wolverhampton and in the opposite direction towards Dudley and the M5 motorway island.

£159,950

**TIPTON
Birmingham New**



A three bedroom semi detached property briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/dining room, lean to with a downstairs wc, family bathroom, rear garden, garage and driveway. NO UPWARD CHAIN! Conveniently located for Dudley town centre. Transport links are provided on the Birmingham New Road, in one direction towards Wolverhampton and in the opposite direction towards Dudley and the M5 motorway island.

£99,950

**WALSALL
Myatt Avenue**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A two bed first and second floor apartment. Good-sized through lounge/diner, modern fitted kitchen with cooker and washing machine, two double bedrooms, and WC/shower room. There is a large patio area to the rear. Shops nearby. EPC D

£450 PCM + Fees

TIPTON

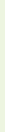


TO LET

A modern first floor two bedroom apartment/coach house. Furnished, built in kitchen with appliances. Small rear garden. Central heating and double glazing. Bathroom with shower. Allocated parking space, available to move in from 1st Sept 2014. No DSS. EPC C

£495 PCM + Fees

**DUDLEY
Attingham Drive**

TO LET

A modern, ground floor two bed apartment. Fitted kitchen/diner, lounge, two double bedrooms and house bathroom/WC. Electric panel and storage heating, allocated parking and communal gardens. Unfurnished, available now. EPC C

£495 PCM + Fees

**CRADLEY HEATH
Reddal Hill Road**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A fully refurbished and newly decorated three bed first floor apartment. Lounge, fitted kitchen/diner with skylight above, two double bedrooms and a further single, bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Secure parking to rear, unfurnished. No pets. EPC TBC

£495 PCM + Fees

**Dudley
Attingham Drive**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A modern, second floor apartment with double glazing and electric heating. Open plan lounge/kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms (master with en-suite shower/WC) and a house bathroom/WC with shower over the bath. Allocated parking space, available to view now for long term. Near bus route and walking distance from Dudley Town Centre. No DSS, no pets. EPC C

£495 PCM + Fees

**DUDLEY
Burton Road**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bed mid terraced house with lounge and dining room, kitchen to rear and bathroom/WC, downstairs. Three bedrooms upstairs. Double glazing and central heating, garden to rear. No pets, DSS considered with guarantor and deposit. Available to view now. EPC E

£500 PCM + Fees

**Tipton
Queens Road**

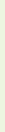



TO LET

A 3 bedroom semi-detached house, good sized lounge, modern fitted kitchen/diner, conservatory to rear, house bathroom/WC upstairs. Rear garden, off road parking to the front. Unfurnished. No DSS, no pets. EPC C

£595 PCM + Fees

**DUDLEY
Tudor Vale**

NEW INSTRUCTION

An beautifully presented three bedroom semi recently modernised throughout. Lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs bathroom with separate shower cubicle, three good sized bedrooms and gardens to the front and rear. Available now. EPC D

£595 PCM + Fees

**Dudley
Scotts Green Close**




NEW INSTRUCTION

A three bed detached house on the popular Russells Hall Estate in Dudley. Two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs WC and house bathroom/WC upstairs with separate shower as well as a bath. Large garden to the rear. Available now. No DSS. EPC E

£650 PCM + Fees

**Wednesbury
Chafery Drive**




TO LET

A modern three bed semi-detached house in a cul de sac comprising of off road parking and a garage. Lounge, modern fitted kitchen/diner with patio doors to the rear garden/patio, and downstairs WC/cloaks. Three good sized bedrooms, the master with fitted wardrobes and en-suite shower/WC and a house bathroom/WC. Unfurnished, available now for long term let, pets considered with £50 non-refundable fee and an additional £100 on the security deposit, no smokers. EPC C

£695 PCM + Fees

Taylors

www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

KINGSWINFORD

818 High Street

01384 401777

BRIERLEY HILL

84-86 High Street

01384 265265

STOURBRIDGE

85 High Street

01384 395555

6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS

DUDLEY

Yarner Close, Milking Bank



ENVIABLY SITUATED at head of cul-de-sac with delightful sheltered rear garden! A meticulously maintained, significantly enhanced, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached residence in favoured district. Accommodation includes; porch, traditional reception hall, store, elegant 16'4" lounge, dining room, uPVC double glazed conservatory, refitted breakfast kitchen with various integrated appliances, utility room, reappointed cloaks. Principal bedroom with built in wardrobes & reappointed shower room en suite, three further generous bedrooms (two with wardrobes), bathroom. Garage, landscaped/sheltered rear garden with patio & decking. EPC Rating: T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £259,950

Kingswinford

WOLVERHAMPTON



Avondale Close

A **LARGE & SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED**, MODERN SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME with a desirable rear aspect, boasting amenities offering an INCREDIBLY SPACIOUS and BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED/APPOINTED layout, and including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, uPVC & DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising; Entrance, Porch, Reception Hall, hall, 20'4" LOUNGE-with-DINING AREA, separate Study, refitted Kitchen with appliances, THREE LARGE BEDROOMS and spacious refitted Bathroom, FULL WIDTH DRIVEWAY and a BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED REAR GARDEN. EPC Rating: D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£169,950

Offers in the region of £167,500

LOWER GORNAL



Woodland Grove

Enviable situated just off Brick Kiln Lane; an EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & primarily uPVC double glazed detached with potential comprising; central reception hall, transverse lounge, enlarged dining room (with feature inglenook fireplace), store, kitchen, utility room, fitted cloaks/shower room. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Garage, lengthy secluded rear garden. EPC Rating: T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £194,950

PENN COMMON



Sedgley Road



A traditional, gas centrally heated, primarily uPVC double glazed semi detached in enviable situation with distant rural views. The property has been well maintained & improved by present vendors over the years, and the accommodation includes; reception hall, living/dining room with French doors out to a small conservatory, extended kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Pleasant rear aspect with ENLARGED & WELL TENDED rear garden, parking for several vehicles on large foregarden. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £182,950

WOODSETTON

DUDLEY / MUSHROOM GREEN

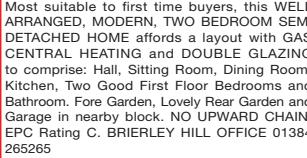


Sedgley Road

A delightful, meticulously maintained & exceptionally well presented, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached in established district. Accommodation provides; entrance hallway, fitted cloakroom, L shape lounge, dining room, brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, upgraded kitchen. Three bedrooms (one with wardrobes), reappointed/retiled shower room with white suite. Neat secluded rear garden, brick GARAGE. EPC Rating: T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £162,950

Forge Cottages



£5,000 REDUCTION
Kingswinford

New Street

A SUCCESSFULLY ALTERED AND ATTRACTIVELY IMPROVED PERIOD THREE TERRACE COTTAGE HOME within the highly popular area of Cot Lane / Barnett Lane, forming part of this highly desirable location, enhanced by a REAR DRIVEWAY and offering BEAUTIFULLY RE-APPOINTED accommodation, comprising; reception hall, lounge, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, two good first floor bedrooms and bathroom. Fore Garden, lovely rear garden and garage in nearby block. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating: C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£149,950



Turl's Street

IDEAL STARTER HOME! A delightful, significantly modernised & improved, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed cottage excellently situated within walking distance of so many amenities, and also open fields. Stylish accommodation comprises; 20'7" through living/dining room, transverse kitchen with a fine range of units. Two bedrooms (one with wardrobes), bathroom with white suite. Neat sheltered well tended rear garden with decking. EPC Rating: C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers in the region of £114,950

DUDLEY WOOD

Wordsley



Quarry Road

Favouring a position within this established address this MODERN AND TASTEFUL DETACHED THREE BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME includes a layout encompassing both GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND DOUBLE GLAZING and has a number of further benefits such as an ATTRACTIVE SITTING ROOM. The property is seen to briefly comprise; Hall, Attractive Sitting Room, MODERN WELL FITTED KITCHEN, Three Good First Floor Bedrooms and Delightful Shower Room. Driveway leading to Garage and Enclosed Rear Garden. EPC Rating: C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

£132,950

Offers in the region of £124,950

DUDLEY

HOLLY HALL



Old Park Road

An ENLARGED, gas centrally heated & primarily uPVC double glazed traditional semi detached in popular/established district. The conscientiously maintained accommodation comprises; entrance porch, reception hall, through 28'6" living/dining room with two bays & patio doors, extended 16' kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom, boarded loft with sky light. Off road parking (kerb dropped), and lengthy sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,995

Hallchurch Road



NEW
SEDGLEY

Turl's Street

Favouring an enviable position within this established address, this MODERN AND TASTEFUL DETACHED THREE BEDROOM, NEWLY BUILT HOME should appeal to first time buyers and includes a layout with both GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND UPVC WOODGRAIN EFFECT DOUBLE GLAZING. This bright & spacious property is thoughtfully planned over three floors and is seen to briefly comprise; Hall, pleasant sitting room, modern well fitted dining kitchen, two first floor bedrooms (one of which with en-suite), delightful bathroom and attic room currently being used as a further bedroom. Off road parking and rear garden. EPC Rating: C. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£119,950

Offers in the region of £114,950

Kingswinford

COSELEY



Catesby Drive

Enjoying the benefit of its own private entrance, this is an EXTENDED LEAP, this BEAUTIFULLY IMPROVED, NOW IMMACULATE, GROUND FLOOR FLAT is superbly located upon highly sought after 'Charterfields' and offers IMPRESSIVELY SPACIOUS accommodation which is ATTRACTIVELY APPOINTED throughout. The property includes; Entrance Hall, very spacious Lounge, ATTRACTIVELY RE-FITTED KITCHEN with built-in appliances; Double Bedroom, RE-APPOINTED BATHROOM; UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and STORAGE HEATING. With attractive Front Garden, a good sized Rear Garden and a REAR GARAGE. EPC Rating: E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£96,950

Offers in the region of £96,950

UPPER GORNAL

LOWER GORNAL



Kinfare Rise

A conscientiously maintained, comparatively spacious, uPVC double glazed First Floor flat most conveniently situated in quiet 'backwater' within walking distance of so many day-to-day amenities. Accommodation includes; entrance porch, hallway, cloaks cupboard, central landing, two double bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, bathroom. Drive (kerb dropped), allocated 'low maintenance' garden. EPC Rating: T.B.A. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £72,950

NEW PRICE
Coopers Bank Road



PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED. AN EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS, modern, freehold, gas centrally heated & upVC double glazed detached family residence of quality constructed circa 2006 (and covered by remainder of NHBC guarantee) in development of elegant first quality homes. Outstanding accommodation includes; hall, cloakroom, study, magnificent 27ft through living/dining room (with 'walk in bay' & double French doors out to garden), superio 'hub of house' 18ft breakfast kitchen with an extensive range of units, fitted appliances & granite work surfaces & a further laundry section, breakfast/tv room. Gallery landing, FIVE BEDROOMS (principal bedroom with professionally installed units & a shower room en suite), bathroom, garage, expertly landscaped secluded gardens. EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Was £299,999, now £289,950

BEARWOOD

HALESOWEN

SEDGLEY

129 Poplar Road

21 Hagley Road

2A Dudley Street

0121 434 4345

0121 550 3978

01902 880888

6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS

COSELEY



The Crucible



A comparatively SPACIOUS freehold gas centrally heated and uPVC double glazed family detached excellently situated at head of short cul de sac upon Redrow Homes now well established development convenient for bus/rail transport routes and other amenities. Excellent accommodation includes reception hall, fitted cloakroom, lounge, dining room (with patio doors to garden) spacious breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units laundry/utility room. Four generous bedrooms (principle bedroom with wardrobes and shower room en suite and bedroom two with fitted wardrobes) garage level gardens. EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £209,950

SEDGLEY



Raglan Close, Brownswall Estate

FINEST LOCATION ON THE ESTATE ? - Enjoying panoramic distant views towards Clee/Wrekin Hills, and particularly LENGTHY GARDEN, a uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated EXTENDED semi detached in favoured cul-de-sac comprising: enlarged porch, reception hall, store, sitting room, extended 21 ft living/dining room with patio doors, doors to garden) spacious breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units laundry/utility room. Four generous bedrooms (principle bedroom with wardrobes and shower room en suite and bedroom two with fitted wardrobes) garage level gardens. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £194,950

LOWER GORNAL



Flavells Lane

EXCEPTIONALLY FLEXIBLE ACCOMMODATION - a distinctive & highly individual, Freehold, gas centrally heated (recent replacement boiler), and uPVC double glazed 'detached' style family home. The extremely versatile accommodation includes: entrance porch, hallway, 16'11" living/dining room, separate kitchen, further sitting room, shower room (former bathroom), separate toilet, rear porch. To the first floor are two double bedrooms, and a 'walk-in' eaves storage space. Externally there is extensive brick block paved parking to front, lengthy 27'6" double car port, delightful secluded rear garden with a wide range of established shrubs & plants. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £189,950

SEDGLEY



Ladies Walk

NO UPWARD CHAIN. An EXTENDED, exceptionally spacious, gas radiator centrally heated & uPVC double glazed family home enviably situated in 'backwater' within level distance of Buttington and all associated amenities. Flexible accommodation comprises: entrance vestibule, reception hall, fitted cloakroom, sitting room, transverse very recently refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & various integrated appliances; open plan dining area, study, and a ground floor utility room. To the second floor two further bedrooms, study, and a recently refitted bathroom with a white contemporary style suite. Garage. EXTENSIVE PARKING, sheltered rear garden, and further side garden. EPC Rating: C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £185,000

GORNAL WOOD



Prospect Road

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Enviable situated in favoured backwater with MAGNIFICENT VIEWS yet within walking distance of the village; a gas centrally heated, part uPVC double glazed detached with potential having generous gardens. Accommodation includes: entrance porch, study, and a ground floor utility room, kitchen, utility room. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Garage, and extensive sheltered well stocked garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £172,950

SEDGLEY



Barn Avenue

REPRESENT OPPORTUNITY! Enviable situated at head of favoured cul-de-sac with panoramic distant views, this EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached requiring improvement works and briefly comprising: entrance porch, reception hall, store, sitting room, dining room, extended kitchen, breakfast room, bathroom, conservatory. Magnificent corner plot with significant potential, garage, and a brick store. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950

LOWER GORNAL



Summer Lane

Representing a truly rare opportunity, this Victorian style, double glazed (vast majority of majority of units), gas centrally heated end terrace with LARGE ATTACHED WORKSHOPS occupies a generous plot & lends itself to further development/ potential commercial premises (subject to planning permission). NO UPWARD CHAIN. The property briefly comprises lounge, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, two first floor double bedrooms. Outside: two large workshops (one with inspection pit), attached office, lengthy driveway, garden area. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £159,950

DUDLEY



The Broadway

A highly individual FREEHOLD gas centrally heated, combi boiler, and double glazed (as seen) detached popular convenient district. The redecorated and refreshed accommodation includes entrance vestibule, reception hall, 22'4" through living/dining room, upgraded kitchen, THREE GENEROUS BEDROOMS, reappointed separate toilet, garage, garden EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £154,950

WOLVERHAMPTON



NEW PRICE

Wolverhampton Road East
EXTREMELY SPACIOUS. Freehold, gas centrally heated, mostly uPVC double glazed DETACHED HOME designed to take maximum advantage of individual sloping site. Accommodation includes 19ft reception hall, cloakroom, kitchen, dining room, lounge, third bedroom with steps down to the lower ground floor having a hallway, two generous double bedrooms, bathroom & store, secluded rear garden with gated service driveway at rear giving access to extensive slabbed parking & TWO SINGLE GARAGES. Internal inspection vital to appreciate potential. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
WAS £163,950, NOW £154,950

HOLLY HALL



NOW AVAILABLE

Kingswinford Road
Commanding an elevated position, large & very generous corner plot, with beautifully maintained garden and long sweeping TARMAC DRIVEWAY with approach to the GARAGE. This TRADITIONAL 'BAY FACED' DETACHED FAMILY HOME is well placed for local amenities with this popular and established location and REQUIRES UPDATING but provides FANTASTIC POTENTIAL to enhance the SPACIOUS accommodation, comprising: Reception Hall, Inner Hall, spacious Lounge with Dining Area and walk-in fire, fitted Kitchen, Study, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, Bathroom with separate shower. GAS CENTRAL HEATING and DOUBLE GLAZING. With USEFUL GARDEN AREA and a pleasant laid out rear garden with patios, lawns and shrubs. EPC Rating: F. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 880888
£149,950

LOWER GORNAL



Coleridge Rise, Straits
Envably situated within reasonable walking distance of a local day and evening centre, country park, bus route etc. gas centrally heated, mostly uPVC double glazed traditional semi detached in convenient neighbourhood. Accommodation includes: reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, pantry. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Lengthy garage, and a rear garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Offers in the region of £149,950

DUDLEY



Forest Road
An EXTENDED, tremendously modernised, refurbished & improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed traditional semi detached in convenient neighbourhood. Accommodation includes: reception hall, pantry, sitting room, SUPERB LARGE DINING KITCHEN with a fine range of units acting as the 'hub of the house', three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with white suite, part tiled walls and floor, and a separate w.c. Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Gated driveway to a large garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Offers in the region of £127,950

LOWER GORNAL



NEW PRICE

Ellowes Road
Conscientiously modernised, comparatively spacious, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached former police house in established district. Accommodation includes: reception hall, dining room, lounge, upgraded kitchen with a range of 'oak' effect units, study, store, separate w.c. Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Gated driveway to a large garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
WAS £127,750, NOW £124,950

DUDLEY



Oakham Road

This most impressive, uPVC Double Glazed, warm air heated, THREE/FOUR BEDROOM END TOWNHOUSE provides truly versatile family living space over FOUR FLOORS, and simply must be viewed to fully appreciate the very high quality of finish throughout. The property is a well-maintained property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Guest WC, Dining / Sitting Room / Bedroom Four, Lower Ground Floor Garden Room, First Floor Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, THREE GOOD BEDROOMS to second floor, Garage, TWO PARKING SPACES and a beautiful, well stocked mature Garden. EPC Rating: E. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265
£124,950

WOODSETTON



Parkes Hall Road
Significantly modernised, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached in particularly convenient district. Accommodation includes: entrance porch, reception hall, store, and the ground floor provides a large living room, dining room, kitchen, and a rear porch. The first floor provides three bedrooms, and a bathroom. The property retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Delightful sheltered garden to front, and brick store to rear. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Offers in the region of £124,950

SEDGLEY



Gospel End Street
A delightful, quiet, and rather quirky, gas centrally heated & double glazed cottage constructed in the late 19th century forming part of Sedgley's conservation area with secluded garden, tremendous distance views, and set in quiet 'backwater' being so convenient for Sedgley's bus routes. The property is in need of some updating and modernisation, and retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Delightful sheltered garden to front, and brick store to rear. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Offers in the region of £124,950

PENSNETT



Tansey Green Road
SPACIOUS and with NO UPWARD CHAIN a redecorated, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) and uPVC double glazed semi detached set in quiet backwater. Imaginatively designed accommodation includes: entrance porch, reception hall, dining room, kitchen, and a rear porch. The property is in need of some updating and modernisation, and retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Extensive block paved/gravelled parking, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
WAS £126,950, NOW £122,500

SEDGLEY



Braemar Close, Northway
NO UPWARD CHAIN. A uPVC double glazed & part gas centrally heated (not tested) intermediate 'starter home' set in cul-de-sac. Accommodation includes: entrance porch, reception hall, dining room, lounge, kitchen, and a rear porch. The property is in need of some updating and modernisation, and retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Extensive block paved/gravelled parking, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Price: £114,950

NETHERTON



Purlin Wharf

A superb two bedroomed flat situated on this delightful canal side development, having double glazing and storage heating. Internal accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, spacious lounge, superb kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom. Double glazing and double doors to a private rear garden. EPC Rating: F. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
£112,950

LOWER GORNAL



Lake Street
A spacious, gas centrally heated, part uPVC double glazed end terrace with potential most conveniently situated close to all village amenities, and having rare advantage of secure GATED PARKING to the side. Accommodation includes: entrance porch, reception hall, study, and a ground floor provides a large living room, dining room, kitchen, and a rear porch. The first floor provides two bedrooms, and a bathroom. Vendors advise, further attic/cellar potential. Garden, EPC Rating: F. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888
Offers in the region of £109,950

QUARRY BANK



Birch Coppice
This really quite charming, Victorian style, Double Glazed (vast majority of units being uPVC), two Bedroom Semi-Detached Cottage is beautifully presented throughout, and may be of particular interest to first time buyers. Upstairs there are two bedrooms, and a bathroom. Downstairs there is a large living room, dining room, kitchen, and a rear porch. The property is in need of some updating and modernisation, and retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Extensive block paved/gravelled parking, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: F. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265
£99,950

PENSNETT



Church Street
Enjoying a position within this renowned address, this BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED, TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOME is recommended for viewing, affording an excellent layout with GAS CENTRAL HEATING AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. Upstairs there are two bedrooms, and a bathroom. Downstairs there is a large living room, dining room, kitchen, and a rear porch. The property is in need of some updating and modernisation, and retains many original period features, and comprises: sitting room (original Inglenook and a woodburner stove), refitted breakfast kitchen (granite work surfaces, deep glazed sink and many units), useful cellar. Principal bedroom (with lofty converted eaves, exposed beams etc.), further bedroom, and a reappointed shower room with first quality white suite. Extensive block paved/gravelled parking, secluded/sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating: E. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265
£97,950

PENSNETT



Commonside
This MODERN STYLE, uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED, GAS CENTRALLY HEATED two bedroom terraced home offers well presented accommodation, and may be of particular interest to first time buyers. The property comprises: entrance porch, hall, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, and enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating: D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265
£97,950

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Netherton and Dudley Sales & Lettings : 01384 456 022

2 Bed Chichester Avenue, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: TBC

Well maintained mid-terrace property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links. The property comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, family bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing, front and rear garden, garage in a separate block with parking space. Viewing recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £95,000

3 Bed Yew Tree Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: G

Well maintained semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location offering an excellent opportunity for first time buyers, families and couples alike. The property comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, ground floor w.c., four good sized bedrooms, family bathroom, single glazed windows and gas central heating, drive way to the front and rear garden. A viewing is recommended to appreciate the size of accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £112,500

4 Bed Worcester Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: TBC

Very spacious mid-terrace property offering an excellent opportunity for first time buyers, couples, families and investors alike comprising of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, ground floor w.c., four good sized bedroom, family bathroom, single glazed windows and gas central heating, drive way to the front and rear garden. A viewing is recommended to appreciate the size of accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £114,995

3 Bed Grange Road, CRADLEY HEATH



NEW

EPC: TBC

Semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links. Being ideal for couples, families and investors alike it comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, ground floor w.c., three good sized bedrooms, family bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing, driveway to the front and rear garden.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £99,995

1 Bed Strathern Drive, BILSTON



NEW

EPC: F

This well presented self-contained one-bedroom first floor flat set towards the head of this quiet cul-de-sac has accommodation to comprise of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Kitchen and bathroom with a spacious double bedroom. The property also benefits from being double glazed (Where Stated) with allocated parking and communal gardens. An early viewing is recommended to appreciate the property.

Stourbridge Office

Offers Around £74,950

3 Bed St Peters Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: TBC

A rare opportunity to acquire a beautiful detached bungalow situated in a quiet location but still close to local amenities. This is a fantastic opportunity for couples and families alike having: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, utility and shower room, three bedrooms, family bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear garden, drive way for four cars and a large double drive way. Internal viewing is a must!

Netherton Office

Offers Around £238,500

2 Bed Cradley Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: E

Well maintained semi-detached situated in a popular residential location offering an excellent opportunity for first time buyers and families alike. The property comprises of: Lounge, dining room, kitchen and dining area, ground floor shower room, two bedrooms, gas central heating and double glazing, drive way to the front and rear garden. Available with no upward chain, viewing is recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £115,000

3 Bed Marlow Close, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: D

Well maintained semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links. The property comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, ground floor shower room, three bedrooms, family bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing, garage and drive to the front and rear garden. Viewing highly recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £134,950

3 Bed Saltwells Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: TBC

An opportunity to acquire a three bedroom terrace property situated in a popular residential location, this is an excellent opportunity for first time buyers, families and investors alike being available with no upward chain. Having: Entrance hall, lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear garden with large garage, gas central heating and double glazing, viewing is highly recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £104,950

3 Bed Stanhope Street, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: E

An opportunity to acquire a well maintained three bedroom detached property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links. The property comprises of: Lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, ground floor shower room, three bedrooms, family shower room, gas central heating and double glazing, drive way and tandem garage to the front and rear garden.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £154,950

3 Bed Lodgefield Road, HALESOWEN



NEW

EPC: D

This well maintained detached property situated in a popular residential location offers an excellent opportunity having accommodation which comprises of: hallway, conservatory, newly fitted kitchen with utility area, down stairs w.c., landing, three bedrooms and newly fitted bathroom. Having gas central heating, double glazing, block paved driveway for at least three cars, garage and rear garden, viewing is highly recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £199,995

2 Bed Worcester Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: D

Semi-detached home situated in this convenient location which benefits from accommodation to comprise of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom. The property also benefits from Gas Central Heating (Where Stated), Double Glazing (Where Stated), and with ample off road parking and front and rear gardens, viewing is recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £84,950

2 Bed Century Way, HALESOWEN



NEW

EPC: B

An opportunity to acquire an immaculately presented first floor new build apartment situated close to local amenities. It comprises of: Entrance hall, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing, allocated parking space and communal garden areas. A viewing is highly recommended to appreciate the standard of accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £95,950

3 Bed Cradley Road, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: E

An opportunity to acquire a three bedroom semi-detached property situated in a popular and established residential location close to local amenities. This property comprises of: entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, ground floor w.c., conservatory, three good sized bedrooms and family bathroom. Benefiting from gas central heating, double glazing, drive way to the rear and fantastic rear garden, viewing is recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £119,950

2 Bed Weavers Rise, NETHERTON



NEW

EPC: C

Mid-terrace home in need of some sympathetic improvements but situated in a popular location with excellent access to all local amenities and the road networks. Ideal first time or buy to let purchase, this property offers accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Two good sized bedrooms and a family bathroom. Benefiting from gas central heating, double glazing, drive way to the rear with rear garden, double glazing (Where Stated) and gas central heating (Where Stated). Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN, early viewing is highly recommended.

Netherton Office

£94,950

3 Bed Counterfield Drive, ROWLEY REGIS



NEW PRICE

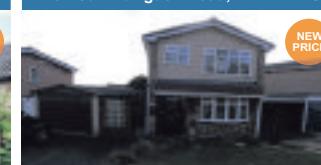
EPC: D

An opportunity to acquire a well maintained end of terrace property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links and available with no upward chain. The property comprises of: lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Having gas central heating and double glazing (where specified), front and rear garden. Viewing is highly recommended to fully appreciate the accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Over £100,000

3 Bed Abingdon Road, NETHERTON



NEW PRICE

EPC: D

This well presented detached home situated on this good sized corner plot within this sought after location providing good sized accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hallway, through lounge, through dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Ample off road parking, garage and potential additional parking and car port. Viewing is highly recommended to fully appreciate the accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Over £158,500

2 Bed Mill Road, CRADLEY HEATH



NEW PRICE

EPC: C

An opportunity to acquire a well maintained 2 bedroom semi-detached property situated in a popular residential location close to local schools, amenities and road links and available with no upward chain. The property comprises of: Lounge, Dining, Fitted Kitchen, 2 bedrooms, Bathroom, central heating and double glazing, front and rear gardens. A viewing is highly recommended to fully appreciate the accommodation on offer.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £94,950

3 Bed St Marks Road, DUDLEY



NEW PRICE

EPC: C

Well presented and good sized traditional semi-detached home having spacious accommodation comprising of: Entrance porch, excellent reception hallway, two reception rooms, modern and refitted kitchen, sun room with double doors, two double bedrooms and a family bathroom. Gas central heating and double glazing, front and rear gardens. A viewing is highly recommended to fully appreciate the property.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £149,950

2 Bed York Road, NETHERTON



NEW PRICE

EPC: D

A beautifully presented semi-detached property with space to park your car. This home offers great potential for a first time buyer looking for a reasonably priced property with a new kitchen and bathroom. The property is in good order throughout. The property also benefits from all the important central heating and double glazing and with good access to local schools and amenities, an early viewing is recommended!

Netherton Office

Offers Over £90,000

3 Bed St Annes Road, CRADLEY HEATH



NEW PRICE

EPC: E

A well presented traditional style semi-detached home situated in this highly convenient location having good sized accommodation to comprise of: Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Diner, Kitchen, and downstairs W.C with three bedrooms and a re-fitted family bathroom to the first floor. It also benefits from being gas centrally heated with under floor heating in the bathroom, double glazing, off road parking for three vehicles and a fantastic sized rear garden!

Netherton Office

Offers Over £130,000

4 Bed Hillmeads Drive, OAKHAM



NEW PRICE

EPC: D

Well presented detached family home situated in this sought after location of Oakham benefitting from excellent convenience to town centre. Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Diner, Kitchen, and downstairs W.C with four good sized bedrooms and a family bathroom. It also benefits from being gas centrally heated with under floor heating in the bathroom, double glazing, off road parking for three vehicles and a fantastic sized rear garden!

Netherton Office

Offers Around £219,950

2 Bed York Road, NETHERTON



NEW PRICE

EPC: D

Well presented semi-detached family home situated on this substantial corner plot providing ample off road parking and good sized front and rear gardens. The property itself benefits from: Entrance hallway, lounge, extended kitchen, downstairs w.c. and two good sized bedrooms and family bathroom to the first floor. It also benefits from being gas centrally heated and double glazed with off road parking to the front and low maintenance rear garden. Internal viewing is strongly recommended.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £98,500

3 Bed Hill Street, NETHERTON



NEW PRICE

EPC: E

A viewing is a MUST to appreciate the accommodation on offer in this deceptively spacious inter-war semi-detached home. Conveniently situated for local amenities and road links, the property benefits from: Front reception room, inner lobby and cellar, rear reception room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and three bedrooms on the first floor. Externally there is a rear garden with shared entry tunnel.

Netherton Office

Offers Around £90,000

3 Bed Heath Road, NETHERTON



NEW PRICE

EPC: D

This really nicely priced mid-terrace home is a surprisingly spacious and has a wonderfully sized rear garden. Having recently redecorated throughout, it features fireplaces and big windows to the front aspect. Large kitchen to rear with space for a dining table, rear garden with outbuildings, patio, lawn and raised decking area, two double bedrooms, a decent size third bedroom and a family bathroom, an early viewing is recommended. NO UPWARD CHAIN.

Netherton Office

Offers considered £100,000

Tiger is a winning formula

By John Griffiths

Triumph is not only the maker's name but a word which could well describe the company's all-new Tiger Explorer.

The 'Tiger' is really like a family name more than any indicator that this is a hastily redesigned version of the familiar 1,050cc three-cylinder machine to widen sales opportunities in the expanding adventure market.

In fact it's powered by a brand new 1,215cc unit (three cylinders, of course) which sets the Triumph apart from most rivals in this class simply in terms of power and torque. With 135bhp on tap, the Explorer is knocking on the door of superbike territory.

Powerful

That makes it almost a third more powerful than the biggest seller in this category and the bike which set the benchmark, the BMW GS, whose sales soared after Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman rode a pair of them around the world.

The new Explorer is unashamedly designed to steal sales from the German machine, so it's no surprise that Triumph has also produced a high specification which includes heated grips, ABS, adjustable traction control, cruise control and 'fly by wire' standard.

The new 1,215cc engine, fitted with balancer shafts for smoother running, is something of a gem. Running at a low 3,000rpm in top (sixth) gear, it can be a lazy man's machine, with just a small movement on

the throttle required to unleash the torque needed for a quick overtake.

Drop a gear and use the revs, and it surges forward like a sports machine. The bike has a sort of Jekyll and Hyde character which will satisfy most types of roads, the rider whatever mood you happen to be in, and whatever the circumstances.

The engine is capable of unleashing a wave of torque which starts at an incredibly low 2,500 revs and continues right up the range. You could ride it quite satisfactorily as a 'top gear' bike but you'd be missing out on the gorgeous growl from the Arrow exhaust at higher revs.

The six-speed gearbox is one of the smoothest, notch-free units I've found on a two-wheeler.

At first I thought top could have been a bit higher, to aid economy (about 48mpg for me). But in fact at 70mph the rev counter shows just a little over 3,000rpm – it's just that there's so much torque on tap you're deceived into thinking the ratio is lower.

The Explorer, like its rivals, is a tall bike. The standard seat is adjustable, but because of my short legs (so my tailor tells me) Stratstone Triumph of Wolverhampton, who loaned their test machine, supplied the 20mm lower option.

Yet in spite of its obvious height and weight, the Explorer is perfectly balanced so that it doesn't become tiring to ride for long periods over twisty roads, such as the by-roads of Wales.

In fact it took a mile or two for my subconscious to adjust to the fact that once in motion it is actually very light and agile: not what I expected at all. It feels altogether like a smaller bike, for example Suzuki's 600 V-Strom, and inspires a lot of confidence. It's great fun, too.

The traction control system (with two settings) didn't intervene during my miles with the Triumph, but I can see the potential advantage in avoiding spinning up the back wheel on wet roads. Riders of 100bhp-plus bikes will be aware of just how easily that happens: and it's likely to be even more welcome for riders who do venture off-road.

Triumph was able to use traction control and cruise control because of the new throttle system: there's no traditional cable, it's all done by electronics. It doesn't feel much different – just a bit lighter – but it does make throttle response very smooth and consistent.

The riding position is upright, keeping your back straight, which I find so much more comfortable after a few hours in the saddle – the type of ride this machine is designed for. The bars are straight and wide, ideal for fine control and stability.

The screen is easily adjustable through a range of angles. For me the midway position offered plenty of protection from wide blast without causing any buffeting or extra noise around my helmet.

The cruise control and comprehensive trip meter (including a 'miles to empty' feature) are operated by buttons next to the

.....

'The new 1,215cc engine, fitted with balancer shafts for smoother running, is something of a gem'

.....



grips where they can be easily operated with a thumb. The indicators are self-cancelling, a system which in this case actually works, but if you don't like that you can easily change back to the old manual system.

It's another example of the amount of thought Triumph has put into developing a new machine to take on BMW at its own game.

There are other pointers, too, such as the larger capacity battery and alternator in anticipation of riders not only taking up

the option of heated seats but also heated clothing. There's a quick headlamp adjustment, too, for when you have a passenger.

Stratstone Triumph say that the Explorer is already winning over customers and I'm not surprised.

The Hinckley-based manufacturer has undoubtedly taken a look at what's best in the adventure market and what riders want, and put a great deal of time and thought into doing something to beat that.

The Triumph costs £11,149 on the road.



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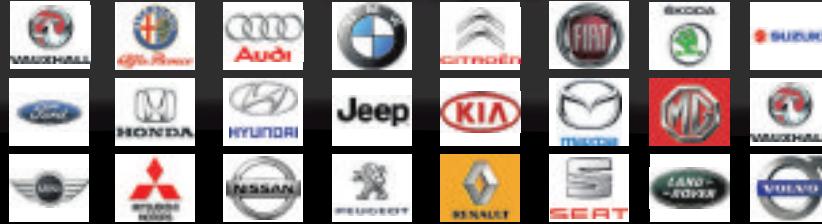
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DRIVETIME



New Scout joins the range

Fully prepared and always ready for an adventure – the latest model to join the Octavia range is a true Scout in every sense.

Building on the strengths of its acclaimed predecessors, the second-generation Skoda Octavia Scout is a unique all-rounder that combines off-road ability with exemplary on-road refinement and the brand's famous practicality.

Priced from £25,315, the new Octavia Scout features an advanced, fifth-generation Haldex clutch transmission, along with sector-best levels of interior space and a host of safety and comfort systems. Yet despite a

significant increase in size and specification, the new Octavia is 20 percent cleaner and more fuel-efficient than the previous model, delivering significant running-cost savings for owners.

Two engines and transmissions are available from launch: a 2.0 TDI 150PS with a six-speed manual gearbox and a 2.0 TDI 184PS featuring a six-speed DSG as standard. The former returns 55.4mpg on the combined cycle and has CO2 emissions of 129g/km, while the range-topping model returns 55.4mpg and has CO2 emissions of 134g/km.

In addition to its off-road ability, the new Octavia Scout offers all the acclaimed safety and comfort features of the standard model. All models are

available with up to nine airbags and Crew Protection Assistant for vehicle safety in crash situations and Driver fatigue sensor.

A number of electronic comfort systems are available as options. These include: Intelligent Light Assistant and Park Assist. The Scout can also be supplied with a new rear-view parking camera.

Based on the Octavia Estate, the Scout has been an integral part of the Octavia range since its introduction in 2007. Between 2007 and the end of 2013, SKODA delivered around 53,600 Octavia Scouts to customers worldwide. This represents almost eight percent of all Octavia Estates delivered during this period.

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My name is Chinu, says man of bronze

DUDLEY Kingswinford Rugby Club will be playing host to a special guest next month.

On September 19 DK will welcome England rugby head coach Stuart Lancaster who will host an evening dedicated to the sport, together with other special guests which are yet to be announced.

Coach Lancaster will speak of England rugby as the squad leads up to their Autumn internationals and the next rugby world cup which will be held in England in 2015.

Lancaster is a personal friend of Carl Douglas, DK's new director of rugby and it

is hoped that Mr Lancaster will spend the afternoon at the club prior to the dinner and work with the junior sections as well as meet members of the club and sponsors as part of the build up to DK's new season.

Tickets to the event, which starts at 7:30 pm and includes a three course meal, will soon be available from the club for £60 each or tables of 10 at £550. Gold, silver and bronze tables will also be available whereby diners will be joined by either Mr Lancas-

ter or one of the other special guests. For further information, please contact Roger Shakespeare by email dkrflancaster@gmail.com or telephone 07779923687.

Carl Douglaston took on the new role of director of rugby starting in May following the club's decision to fill a need to oversee the provision of high quality coaching, team performance, and to set strategy and the long term development of its players.

Douglas is an RFU Level 5 qualified coach, who has many years of experience as a head rugby coach and player development manager for premier league rugby teams.

Last season was an extremely testing time for DK.

With a strong track record of developing young players to fulfil their true potential, Douglas' remit will be to recruit new, as well as develop current players, building the club's long-term potential with a view to coming back into level 4 at the earliest opportunity.

Ed Parry, DK's First team captain said, "After what has been a long and tough season this year, the players are excited to welcome Carl to lead us towards success in the team's next chapter."

Yeltz duo will face tough test in league

HALESOWEN TOWN chairman Colin Brookes believes striking duo Iyseidn Christin and Ben Haseley will face tougher tests in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League this season.

Between them Christie and Haseley bagged 59 goals as Halesowen clinched the Evo-Stik Division One South title last year.

The club have won one, drawn two and lost two in pre-season ahead of the visit of Hednesford Town tonight in their final pre-season fixture. It's a 7:45pm kick-off.

Brookes insists the club is excited to begin their new campaign at Skelmersdale United on August 16.

He said: "Iyseidn and Ben got almost 60 goals between them. They're both staying with us for this campaign. They'll both come up against more experienced defenders, who have played Football League and Conference football. We don't have anyone else who has played in a higher league than what we've been promoted to other than Leon McKenzie and Iyseidn. For everyone else it will be like two promotions."

Midfielder Danny Bragoli has joined Halesowen from Chasetown.

Hot Summers' night that was knockout

TIPTON'S Ricky Summers saved his best knockout for his big break on TV as opponent Curtis Gargano was counted out in front of the BoxNation cameras.

The two engaged in a slugfest before the finish came, four rounds into a scheduled six, at Wolverhampton Civic Hall last night, writes Craig Birch.

Summers, the only Black Country boy on the bill, was risking a proposed title shot at Dudley's The Venue on September 19 to compete in front of a national audience.

He refused to get drawn into a brawl with Gargano, who replaced Mitch Mitchell for the light-heavyweight contest, and took him out with just 20 seconds of the fourth session left.

Summers said: "I will enjoy this and then turn my focus towards the next fight night in Dudley."

"Hopefully, all of my supporters can follow me on that journey as well."

A cagey first round saw Summers stay patient behind the jab, as Gargano got on his toes and made himself a moving target.

The Mancunian tried to wind Summers up by imploring him to 'come on' at the end of the second round, after tasting a right upper cut flush to the jaw.

Summers' head was rocked back as one shot from a Gargano flurry slipped through, but good combination punching reminded him who was boss during this battle.

With the bit between his teeth, Summers bided his time waiting for the opportune moment to come when he could crumple up Gargano with a loaded right

hook to the ribs, forcing him to take a knee.

He made some attempts to rise to his feet but had no real interest in continuing, failing to beat referee Terry O'Connor's call to 10.

Summers said: "He just stopped behind his guard and kept it nice and tight, he just survived."

"People like that stop you performing at your best."

"I am a counter-puncher, I show my power when people come on to me," said Summers.

"When I am chasing people around the ring, it's harder to get your shots off. He caught me in the second round but it wasn't much of a shot, I've had harder spars."

"I kept on picking my shots until I could finish him off."

"I waited to throw that right hook. It's no good trying for the same shot during the fight, it came as a surprise and it did the job," added the winner.

"I am glad he got up and the referee stopped it, I would have hurt the lad if he had carried on."

Teenage golfer is record-breaker



Golfer Richard Shaw, from Wombourne, who has broken the course record at Enville Golf Course, Highgate Common

A YOUNG barman has broken a golf course record – despite only taking up the game four years ago.

Richard Shaw took 66 shots to make his way around the Lodge course at Enville Golf Club during a round. The previous record was 67.

The 18-year-old, who plays off a handicap of zero, hopes the achievement will be a step towards becoming a professional. Richard, who works at the golf club bar, started playing

golf while at Ellowes Hall Sports College in Dudley, first at Sedgley Golf Club and then moving to Enville.

Richard, who lives with his parents in Wombourne Park, said: "My mates were playing and I decided to come along one day and hit some balls, I haven't looked back since. It's taken a lot of hard work and patience but my game feels like it's continuing to improve."

Breaking the course record is even

more remarkable for Richard as the 11th hole has been extended. The previous record had been held by Chris Elston for around eight years.

Richard, who plays golf every day, came second in the Staffordshire Boys Golf Tournament in Penn last year and has won a competition at Copt Heath Golf Club in Solihull.

The breaking of the course record at Enville Golf Club will be recognised with a plaque at the clubhouse.

Shan gets promoted to U-21s

ALBION have promoted James Shan to the position of Under-21 Senior Professional Development Phase Coach.

He steps up from his previous role as Under-18 Lead Development Phase Coach to take over the reins from David Oldfield, who left for MK Dons last month.

The 35-year-old has progressed through the club's ranks since moving to The Hawthorns as performance coach/under-11s coach in 2006. And he has helped develop players such as Saido Berahino, Liam O'Neil, George Thorne, Chris Wood and Isaiah Brown.

Technical director Terry Burton said: "James was the obvious choice to fill the role. He knows the players well."

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A goal in the 89th minute from Matt Jukes rescued a draw for Tividale, who played several trialists against a team who will line up one league above them this season.

Tividale were playing their second game in a week after a 7-1 romp at Bromsgrove Sporting and the visitors were also in good pre-season form, having beaten Stourport 6-0 in their last game.

The game started brightly, both teams looking lively but it was Halesowen who took the lead on 18 minutes when Tividale goalkeeper Charlie Price failed to deal with a routine free kick and Iysemen Christie tapped the ball home.

Price was replaced in goal by Tom Turner for the second half.

But neither could find the breakthrough until Juke's last minute header at the final post.

A worry for Halesowen was midfielder Aaron Forde going off with a hamstring injury.

Halesowen: Sargeant, Green, Griffiths, Forde, Hull, Tilt, Bragoli, Turner, Christie, Thompson Brown, Till

Subs: Lait, Pearson, MacKenzie, Tonks, Haseley, Kettle, Bowen.

**Ellie grabs
gold gong**

WALSALL'S Ellie Simmonds, Steph Slater and Susie Rodgers won gold for Great Britain on the first day of the IPC Swimming European Championships in Eindhoven.

Paralympic and world champion Simmonds took the 400m freestyle S6 title in five minutes 28.31 seconds, Rodgers won the 400m freestyle S7 and Slater took the women's S8 100m backstroke.

Simmonds, 19, was "really happy" to win gold, but said: "It was a rubbish swim. I'm not happy with the time."

Rodgers said: "It was one of those ones where you don't know what is going to happen."

"I had a race plan and I'm pleased with how it went. It was a good time. We are going in the right direction."

The championships run until Sunday, 10 August.

Heathens challenged to beat bitter rivals

BOSS Will Pottinger has challenged his riders to make up for the absence of star man Steve Worrall when Cradley face bitter rivals Mildenhall at Monmore next Tuesday (7.30).

Worrall, who swept to glory in last week's Golden Hammer, is riding for Premier League Edinburgh in a fixture arranged for Sky at Berwick, writes Nigel Pearson.

Heathens have no choice but to utilise the rider replacement facility – as they did in the win at Stoke on Sunday.

The rivalry between Cradley and the Fen Tigers was intensified when they clashed

Speedway

two years ago when the Black Country side were controversially denied the National League title by a refereeing decision which the Heathens are keen to avenge.

Now the Heathens are looking to build on their stunning run of results – which includes hopefully dumping the Fen Tigers out of the Knockout Cup – when the sides clash on Tuesday.

Boss Pottinger, said: "It's a testament to the team we've put together the fact that

we can keep on winning even when we are missing our better riders sometimes.

"We've got a tough home meeting coming up against Mildenhall which should be a good test for us."

"We had a difficult meeting against Coventry last home meeting which we came through well, so hopefully we can do the same against Mildenhall," added Pottinger.

"It looks like we'll be without Steve Worrall which is a blow, but we've proved we can win even when people are missing."

"We just need the remaining six riders to

Tee-rific play
Teenager is a course record breaker
Page 43



email: Chronosport@expressandstar.co.uk

Offer for Dawson rejected

ALBION have rejected a third bid from Burnley for defender Craig Dawson.

It's understood the newly-promoted Claret's latest offer is in excess of £1.5m for the 24-year-old.

Other, higher-ranked clubs are now showing an interest in the former England Under-21 international and are prepared to pay more than Burnley.

But while Dawson appears to be edging closer to The Hawthorns exit door, another stopper made his debut for the club.

Lescott is fit again after a calf injury sidelined him from the behind-closed-doors 2-0 win over Bury on July 12, while captain Chris Brunt is available following a hernia operation.

Victor Anichebe has been struggling with illness but is hopeful of playing a part against Forest.

But there is no eagerly-awaited debut at the City Ground for £10m new signing Brown Ideye as he is still in Nigeria awaiting his work permit.

Stephane Sessegnon will also miss out again due to his involvement with Benin in their African Nations Cup qualifier with Malawi.

Tongo to stay for time being

TONGO DOUMBIA seems set to stay at Wolves for the time being.

Reports from France claimed the midfielder had agreed personal terms on a move to Lens.

But the former Rennes player appeared for Wolves in the Under-21s friendly at Hednesford where they were beaten 1-0.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, August 7

Summers puts on a knockout performance



Ricky Summers who won his battle with Curtis Gargano by a knockout at Wolverhampton's Civic Hall

TIPTON boxer Ricky Summers ours. The light-heavyweight, fight- passed his screen test with flying col- Mancunian Curtis Gargano inWolverhampton. ● Hot - Page 43

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